



PARENT FORUM MEETING MINUTES

Friday 4th March

Present: Julie Puxley
Deb Pawson
Emma Baker
Gosia Henik
Mandy Weetch

Kate Brown
Madi Wilkie
Sarah Steer
Emilie Fisset
Christina Hammond

1.	Apologies Apologies were received from Tom Game, Hayley Cordall and Gemma Bauer
2.	Restarting of parents coming into school – Infant Reading Mornings and Mothers Day. It was agreed by all that parents would love the opportunity to come to events in school. It was noted that as everything was by choice parents could make the decision whether they were comfortable to attend or not. Madi mentioned that it should only be if teachers felt comfortable with having parents into their class.
3.	Parents Evening Feedback The majority of parents are happy with a 50/50 split for face-face and virtual parents evenings. It was discussed that in rare cases where parents did not get a suitable appointment the teachers are usually willing arrange an additional appointment. Parents liked the idea of a “book look” and next time school will give further notice on the date of this to ensure all parents can view the books. It was mentioned this could be done in conjunction with a cake sale so that parents could linger and take their time looking at the books.
4.	PE Kits Everybody agreed that coming into school in PE kits is a good idea. It was suggested that perhaps the Early Years learning letter could mention practicing getting changed at home so that children are prepared and find it easier to get changed when swimming starts in Year 1.
5.	School Trip Payments Julie asked whether parents preferred to pay for school trips termly (£12 a term) or per trip. It was decided that lots of families would prefer being able to budget so charging termly would help with this. It was agreed that having the option to pay the full cost of the trip straight after the trip has occurred, should parents wish to is also a good option. Several of the parent reps indicated that they would happily pay extra for a trip if it allowed a child to attend that otherwise may struggle to make payment. School will look whether this could be implemented sensitively and without too much administration.

6.	<p><u>Fundraising</u></p> <p>It was agreed that children would really enjoy a summer fete and other social events. A list will be produced by school of jobs that would be taken on by parents/grandparents etc so that these events can take place. School staff are always willing to help at events but can often only help at specific times due to teaching commitments. If we cannot get sufficient help then we will not be able to run events. For the summer fayre we will allocate each class a stall or area to run and we would like parent reps to coordinate/encourage their year group. It is worth advising parents that children love to get involved and help.</p>
7.	<p><u>Any other business</u></p> <p>It was mentioned that parents often have to wait quite some time in the infant foyer when collecting from Ace. A bell will be installed to alleviate the waiting time.</p> <p>Some parents struggle to remember PE days especially if there is a change to the weekly pattern. We only make changes when absolutely necessary and unfortunately due to staff absence there have been more changes lately than we would like. On Sunday it was the only way we could keep all classes open as we have seven teachers off this week. We hope there will be less changes in the coming months.</p> <p>Madi mentioned there was a query relating to how house points are given out for homework and effort for homework. Individual queries regarding a child's work should be passed to the class teacher.</p> <p>Some parents are concerned that children do not drink enough water during the day. Children can always access their water bottles and are reminded regularly to drink.</p> <p>There was a request for activities to take place outside the school day for working parents. The junior school do have evening Christmas performances but the infant children are too young for this and would find it too tiring. Fundraising events can take place outside of school hours but its difficult for other school-based events to happen outside of school times although we all acknowledge it is difficult for working parents and realise they often not come to all events.</p>