



PARENT FORUM MEETING MINUTES Monday 20th June

Present: Julie Puxley
Tom Game
Emma Baker
Gosia Henik
Gemma Bauer
Kate Brown
Christina Hammond
Sarah Steer
Emilie Fisset
Hayley Cordall

1.	<u>Apologies</u> Apologies were received from Madi Wilkie & Mandy Weetch.
2.	<u>School Day</u> Mrs Puxley informed everyone that the new white paper from the government means that our school day must be amended from September. The Infants will be start at 8.45am and finish at 3.10. The Juniors will start at 8.35am and finish at 3.15pm. Gates will open 10 minutes before the start of each session. If a child arrives at school and the gates are closed they will need to come by via the office and a late mark will be recorded. This will clearly be communicated to parents in the newsletter over the coming weeks.
3.	<u>School Trip Payments</u> It was explained that the cost of trips has increased due to the huge cost increases from the coach companies. Parents felt sometimes payment was expected too quickly. Mrs Puxley is worried about introducing a termly cost from September incase trips have to be cancelled. We have said we will look at the option of a monthly payment or parents can load their Parentpay account with a set amount each month and hold the money as "parent credit" which can then be used to pay for trips as and when. We will try to give a rough cost for the trips for the whole year in advance so parents can plan ahead.
4.	<u>Fundraising Activities</u> Mrs Puxley was concerned that it may seem as though we are organising a lot of activities and whether it is too much for families. The general consensus was that everything is optional and it is nice for children to have the opportunity to partake in all the events having missed so much. We would also ask that parents contact school if they need help as there is help available.
5.	<u>Inconsiderate Parking</u> We regularly remind parents about the importance of parking safely and considerately. It is not possible to have a member of staff on patrol around the vicinity at the start and end of the day however there is a number for Essex County Council highways which will give out in the newsletter for any parents that wish to report dangerous or inconsiderate parking (01206 282316). A zebra crossing was being considered by the council and the school will chase this up.

6.	<p><u>Ace Club Breakfasts</u></p> <p>There was concern that the breakfast choice at Ace isn't healthy enough. Mrs Puxley explained that there are choices available and all food/drink is given in controlled portion sizes which meet the government guidelines. We are also going to review our menu with Essex Healthy Schools.</p> <p>It was requested that a menu for ACE dinners could be made available so that parents could see what their child was eating each evening. This will be available on the website from September.</p> <p>If a parent specifically would like their child to make a certain breakfast choice then they can request this via email to Ace club.</p>
7.	<p><u>School Communications</u></p> <p>It was asked whether a board could be outside each classroom so that key things for the week can be noted. Unfortunately we do not have the resources to do this for all 16 classes however the online calendar shows all PE/club sessions each week and can be found here https://www.katherinesemar.co.uk/calendar/?calid=1,2,3,4&pid=7&viewid=3</p> <p>Parents also advised that they found the termly dates which are sent out a really useful tool for forward planning.</p> <p>It would be beneficial if parents could take 5 minutes each week to read the newsletter too. We do have to send all the reminders as we have quite a high percentage of parents not reading the newsletter.</p> <p><u>Any other Business:</u></p> <p>Spelling Score Challenges</p> <p>70 – 79% = Bronze</p> <p>80-99% = Silver</p> <p>100% + Gold</p> <p>All children who achieve over 70% are celebrated as a spelling is such an important part of a child's learning Mrs Puxley feels this is a sufficient threshold.</p>