

## **PARENT FORUM – MINUTES**

**FRIDAY 25<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at 9.00 am**

Attendees: 8 Parents

Mrs. Fairweather – Interim Headteacher - MF

Mrs. Worrall – Minute Taker

Mrs. Fairweather thanked parents for the agenda items and handed them out to all present.

### **Topics of Discussion**

#### **Morning Interventions**

MF – Morning Interventions started this week. Sometimes they may be a few weeks later at the start of term as staff need to look at children's progress. For the next cycle some of the children are focused on what teachers have pointed out the children need. During the day we run other interventions as well, some children are taken out during assembly time to work in groups. Mr. Birch is giving us extra time to work with our Year 5 children. We also have in place an extra teacher working with our Year 6 children.

We also run interventions for our more able children during the school day. We are looking at more able provision so as to inspire other children. In every year group we have children doing some activity, Year 3 have an opportunity twice a week for 20 minutes before school. We are working towards getting it across every year group.

#### **Newsletters**

MF – Do parents read the Newsletters and are they happy to receive it weekly?

Parent Feedback:

- Parents are very happy with the information provided in the newsletters especially the information in the beginning telling us about what our children are doing during the week.
- Parents are happy with Newsletters coming out weekly.

#### **Homework**

MF – In the last meeting it was raised about emailing homework on a Monday or Tuesday. MF has spoken to staff about it but at the moment it looks unlikely. MF mentioned homework club is working very well and children are happy to attend.

Parent Feedback:

- Can children hand the homework in on a Tuesday instead of Monday?
- Can the spellings for the whole term be included in the sheet and highlight the spellings for the week?
- Quality of the homework is not great.

- Year 6 homework last week – please look at the quality of work.
- A lot of mistakes in the homework sheets that are sent out.

MF – Will look into this and follow it up.

### **Spellings and Timetables**

Parent Feedback:

- Can spelling books be sent home so parents can see what spellings their child is getting wrong?
- Do children mark themselves in spelling tests?

MF – We do need to keep children's books in school as evidence to look at but we can try and see how this information will be sent home to parents.

MF – Children mark their spelling test in some classes but teachers do cast their eye over to check.

### **100% Attendance Celebration**

Parent Feedback:

- Some children are very upset when their friends are being taken out and rewarded and they haven't been picked due to an afternoon off due to a medical appointment.
- Sometime it can't be helped if there is a medical appointment during the school day which results in losing out.
- Reception children are too young for this.
- My child said it was boring in class as we just read when the group was taken out for a movie.
- The school has a 48-hour policy for sickness bug yet people send their children in the next day.

MF – We reset the 100% attendance every term so every child gets a chance. It would be helpful to see how many children get the reward. We do celebrate our children in so many different ways.

MF – Our reception classes attendance was the worst last year.

MF – Will investigate what work is carried out in the classes with the rest of the children.

MF – Will send statistics to parents to say how many children were off in the term on holiday.

### **The use of washable paints in the school**

Parent Feedback:

- The blue colour that is being used is staining. If children are using paints outside please can they have overalls to protect expensive coats?

MF – Will follow up on this.

### **Helping Hands**

MF mentioned we have introduced a new initiative to give parents an opportunity to engage in school activities. This will help our Teaching Assistant's to spend more time with children's learning.

Parent Feedback:

- Can we take work home to get it done?

MF – That is fine we can organize that.

### **New Clubs**

MF – We have introduced a few new clubs this term. How are they going? Are parents happy with the new clubs?

Parent Feedback:

- Parents are questioning why the lunchtime club is more expensive?
- Children don't come down until 3.20pm and only start the club at 3.30 pm even though the club is advertised for an hour.
- Karate club is very good.

MF – The currently running art club is highly recommended by 6 other trusted schools. If parents are happy with the club, we can try them as an after-school club in the next academic year. We are also looking at introducing a wellbeing club.

### **Help for the Library**

MF – We have a growing number of lovely books that need to be put up in the library. They need to be plastic covered, we are happy for parent to take them home to cover. MF will mention in the Newsletter that we are looking for helpers. We will be looking at setting up the library so that parents and children can access the books. Hopefully we will be able to launch it in September.

### **Inspiration Day**

MF – If you know people who have a skill and can come talk to our children please ask them to contact the school office. This education is purposeful to enhance children's learning.

### **DOJO App**

MF – We are looking into it at the moment. ClassDojo connects teachers with students and parents to build amazing classroom communities. The app is very useful and if it is successful with one class we will then launch out to other classes.

### **Signs at the front and back of school**

MF - We are working on this at the moment.

### **Holiday Club**

Parent Feedback:

- What provision is in place for half-term?
- Can coaches do school hours?
- Parent mentioned she has taken her children out of breakfast club as they are not allowed out on the playground
- Can children have a bigger area as the room is too small for so many children.

MF – The Be Sports Club will be available in the half-term. We are still looking at other provision.

MF – Will investigate why children are not allowed out on the playground.

### **Ice on the path and Wild area**

**Parent Feedback:**

- Parent slipped on the way to school, during this kind of weather the paths need to be gritted regularly.
- Can someone clear the bin bag up that parent has reported a couple of times to the caretaker.
- What does the Caretaker actually do?

MF – There are all sorts of roles for the caretaker during the day but we will make sure the paths leading up to school is gritted and the bin bag is put away.

MF thanked everyone for attending.

Next Parent Forum TBC.

Meeting ended at 10 am