

Parents Forum Meeting – Friday 7th April

Present:- Claire Bradley-Dorman, Jo Aldridge, Hannah Bishop, Lynne Dyke, Jo Eastment, Charlotte Hucker, Rachel Richardson, Kirsty Logan, Matt Logan, Mrs Grundy.

Apologise:- None

Clerk:- Claire Porter

Matters Arising

- 1) Parking – Mrs Grundy told parents it is a situation that she is trying to get on top of. Parents reported that a white car is blocking cars in every morning. Mrs Grundy has requested that parents/carers have respect for other road users and children being dropped off at school, she is going out onto the street/carpark every evening and asking parents to park a little further away and walk to collect. Mrs Porter to contact PCSO Andy Poxon to be around the school gates at drop off and collection times and speak to drivers, traffic warden also to be contacted. Childrens lives are being put at risk by irresponsible parking. Parents suggested that there are environmental benefits of walking to school one day a week, maybe children could be given the incentive of house points being awarded if this could be achieved. Letter from Local School Committee to parents to ask them to help with this issue.
- 2) Clubs – Mrs Sharman is still looking into a dance club and has contacted a few people, yet unsuccessfully, to start in September.

Agenda

- 1) Attendance – Mrs Grundy has received a complaint from a parent regarding the 100% attendance certificates not being issued when children had attended medical appointments. Parents agreed that they fully understood Staffordshire County Council's stance on this and that notes are on the bulletin on a regular basis asking parents to try and make appointments out of school times or alternatively that they attend school to register their attendance and get picked up at a suitable time for their appointments. Parents agreed they wanted to continue with the certificates being issued as they think it encourages the children to try for 100%. The school fully understands that children have illnesses and that absences will occur. Attendance week was discussed to see if children could be rewarded for being on time into school and sitting in their classroom and ready to start learning by the second bell at 8.50 as some children are still arriving at school well after the first bell at 8.45 and therefore delaying the whole class in starting for the day. School could look into issuing pencils for the punctuality incentive.
- 2) Timings of Parents Forum meetings – Parents have asked for evening meetings so working parents could attend, but when these have taken place in the past they have been poorly attended. If the meetings took place straight from school with childcare provided it was thought that the same attendees would be the only ones present. When the school held a consultation meeting regarding the federation in the evening only 4 parents attended. It was agreed that the next meeting could take place while the school disco was taking place.

Any Other Business

- 1) Summer Fayre – Mrs Grundy confirmed that the summer fayre will take place on Friday 7th July straight after school. Parents present offered to help on stalls but we are still looking for additional helpers, if you are able to help please let the PTFA members or Mrs Porter know. Parents agreed it was a better time for staff to be involved and thought it was a good idea to give it a try.
- 2) Lunch Bunch Menus – Parents asked for paper copies of the menus as they didn't always keep the emailed ones. Mrs Porter to arrange for some to be put in the drawer in reception.
- 3) School Dinners – Some parents of Reception and Key Stage 1 children are still not encouraging their children to have a school dinner on census day despite requests on the bulletin. The school funding is based on the number of children who take a hot dinner on these days and the school can be missing out of thousands of pounds by parents still sending in sandwiches on these days. It was decided that the most popular lunch for children is fish and chips and this would be the menu on further census days and all children encouraged to try a hot dinner. Suggestions were made of children making laminated placemats and maybe the staff eating with the children for this day.
- 4) Reception Class – Maternity cover from Mrs Durnford has now been arranged and the new teacher will be in school one day a week until May half term to get to know the school routines and the children in Nursery who will be moving into her class.
- 5) Memory Sticks – Suggestion was made to use the cloud, but parents preferred the memory sticks.
- 6) Homework – Parents liked the new system of homework since the changes
- 7) Uniform – The new badge will be in place on all uniform from September but is now available from Crested Schoolwear. If you child has grown out of any uniform it is always gratefully received in school for spares. Ideas were discussed about what could be done with old jumpers with the old logos on, this is to be discussed further with staff to come up with some ideas.
- 8) Visit from Kenya – Estnas, the head teacher from Malinda Primary School will be coming into school the week after Easter and all the children will be involved with activities with her.