

Parents' Forum Meeting 12th February 2016

Present: Mrs Aldridge, Mrs Bates, Ms Bishop, Mrs Grundy, Ms Richardson, Mrs Maddison, Mrs Gittins-Wright, Ms Waite, Mrs Churchill, Miss Hucker and Mrs Porter

Apologises: Mrs Wright

Matters Arising:

- 1. Homework** – Parents thought that there was a big jump between the homework issued in Year 2 to Year 3, in both quantity and level of work. Y3 parents are trying to help but very often don't understand it themselves, Mrs Grundy said that if the children don't understand what has been issued they should bring back to school and the teachers would go through it again. Mrs Grundy also explained that with the new curriculum changing massively, so has the work expected of the children. Homework sometimes causes friction at home and the parents suggested that a homework club would be beneficial, Mrs Grundy suggested possibly a Tuesday lunchtime and then if children had been unable to do their homework by the Monday they could attend club on Tuesday.
Mrs Grundy informed parents that she is currently researching the way homework is done and this may be restructured. Parents liked the idea of topic work during half-terms. Parent advised that Middle School homework is Internet based, but parent informed that she doesn't allow children internet access at home so would not be happy with this.
- 2. Noise in Worship** – Parents complained that there was a lot of noise during Celebration Worship from the children in the library and they couldn't hear what was being said in the Hall. Parents very often take time off work on a Friday morning to hear the praise that is given to the children, but can't hear. Mrs Grundy will remind parents that the library doors should be kept closed to keep the noise levels down.
- 3. Delivery Drivers** – Complaints have been received over the past week about Biffa lorry and Brakes lorry entering the car park through the no-entry signs during school/nursery drop off and pick up times. The butchers also had parked on the pavement during drop off time. Mrs Porter and the Catering Supervisor have spoken to all companies to complain and are waiting responses. Mrs Grundy would like barriers put up outside school, agreed to contact Staffordshire County Council to look at options.
- 4. Concerns about rumours of flat being built behind school** – Agreed to contact Carnells to see in any truth in the rumours.
- 5. OSC** – Parents asked if the meal options had changed at OSC as children were coming out significantly hungrier than before. Mrs Grundy advised it was the same and only a snack is provided not a full meal, other schools locally just offer a drink and biscuit. Parents asked if a sandwich meal could be brought in by children, particularly as many attended clubs straight from OSC and didn't go home, Mrs Grundy agreed this would not be a problem.
- 6. Parents outside the gate** – It was raised that parents collecting children should go through the gates and as soon as children are dismissed that they move out of the gates so other could move forward. Mrs Grundy stated that this has always been an issue. It was noted that Big T's were also trying to collect several children and parents blocking the way also made it difficult for them too. Many parents have to wait for siblings and there is a 5 minute gap between collection times of KS1 and KS2 pupils, Mrs Grundy said she would ask staff to tighten up on departure times to try and alleviate some of the problems.
- 7. Garden** – Parents asked if a meeting could be arranged with Mrs Probert to discuss how they could help with the garden during the summer months.
- 8. Parents Workshops** – Parents had said that they liked the workshops and stated that they would like to be able to see notes if unable to attend. Mrs Porter informed parents that the powerpoints and internet links were on the school website under the parents section. Next Parent Workshops are Spelling & Grammar on

4th March and Maths on 18th March. Mrs Grundy asked what else they would like and New Curriculum and New Levels were agreed.

9. **School Website** – Parents would like to see regular class updates on the website.
10. **School Bulletin** – With the option of viewing the bulletin on the website, facebook page or via email it was asked of parents if they still wanted paper copies also, it was agreed to send a letter out to all parents asking them to opt in if they would like a paper copy.
11. **Reading Books** – Parents asked why library books had to be returned at the end of terms. Mrs Grundy advised this was due to many getting lost.
12. **Lunchtime/After School Clubs** – Parents stated that Dodgeball had gone down really well and the children had all enjoyed it, they were not so keen on Archery & Fencing. The girls liked the dance club, but parents asked why only girls and Mrs Grundy explained that this was because girls were more reluctant to join sports clubs they would be solely for them. Parents asked if other ages could be accommodated. Mrs Maddison said she had enjoyed running the club. Mrs Grundy asked parents to view the Youtube video “Give me 5 years” made by Nike and to see the effect of children not partaking in Physical Activities. Parent asked if we could be involved in the Children’s University which is followed through at Middle School, Mrs Grundy to look into manageability. Parents asked if half a term of the French club was sufficient, but Mrs Grundy said this had been very popular and she was giving as many children as possible the chance to access.