

Minutes from Parent Forum Meeting 15th March 2017

Present : Theresa Jaggard, Kirstie De-Machen, Georgia Richards, Teri Morley-Ocsko, Clare Wisdom, Amanda Shed

Apologies : Tina Holditch and Victoria Hobson

New Intake meeting 12 July

- parent forum attendees - confirm / discuss at next meeting

Grandparents Day

- Not moved forward...yet! But idea is liked and TH had some ideas - TJ to discuss with TH.

Feedback from parents prior to next meeting

- discussed possibility that 1 or 2 reminders be circulated about forthcoming meetings, via separate letter-not on the bulletin.
- Feedback generally very quiet - Parents still unsure of parent forum purpose?
- KD-M to be main email contact for parents to correspond - then distribute to forum members.

Wednesday Worship

- Better turn out from EYFS and KS1 parents, the older the children get, the more likely parents are to be working. Some parents may possibly be unsure of what Wednesday Worship is all about, although the school has explained this in a recent communication.
- TJ to send out clarification that All are welcome, this is not about trying to convert people.

Forest School

- Mostly across all Years very positive feedback.
- But some negative feedback in the form of 2 complaints have been received (see TJ response via attached Letter). The reasons for the concern about Forest School were due to the following:
- Rats, water quality, getting dry after being in the stream, being dirty for the rest of the school day and eating after playing in the mud (hands not clean), incorrect attire
- Forest School is being monitored closely to see how the school effects other areas of the learning day - ie team work-some children perhaps not speaking nicely to each other in the class room but when attending FS teachers/volunteers noticing a difference in behaviour as well as children having fun in the outdoors
- Reinforce that risk assessments are undertaken for Forest School and that guidelines are received by the children

- Ensure that Parents are aware that they are welcome to volunteer to help out with Forest School - a great way to see first hand at the activities the children enjoy.

Academy Conversation

- Remind parents that there is a Questions and Answers section on the Tenax Schools Trust website - see link below:

<http://www.tenaxschoolstrust.co.uk/faq/>

- If there are any concerns - Mrs Jaggard is happy to discuss on a face to face basis.

New Parent Opportunities - Welcome Pack

- Discussed the idea of adding more information about parent/carer/grandparent volunteering to the welcome pack for new parents.
- For example, helping out on school trips, class room reading, gardening, school library, artwork and sports. Quite often new parents are unsure of how to get involved with the school.
- Idea is to include a form in the welcome pack for parents/carers/grandparents to sign if they wish to express an interest in any of the above and are happy to be contacted by the school.
- School to produce a guide for volunteers of what is expected. The guide is to be signed by both teacher and volunteer.

PTFA

- Minutes are due out this week
- New helpers needed
- Raffle Coordinator - role need to be filled, ideally 2 people
- Handover to new PTFA Team still in progress

Items identified by Parents for discussion

- a question has raised about Voluntary contributions to the school. Should the payment be made it is noted as 'voluntary'.

- Should the use of 'voluntary' be discontinued
- TJ to discuss with Tenax Board about the wording of Voluntary Contributions
- Year 3 Sleepover - is this happening in 2017. TJ to discuss with TH as this is something that TH has historically organised
- School Uniform - had supplier changed? Quality of uniform not good
- PE Kit - clarity around the content of winter and summer PE kits. Is a full track suit a requirement - trainers or plimsoles or both?!
- TJ to consider for September uniform guidelines

AOB

Carroty Wood - Residential Visit

- Brilliant feedback from all who attended - Huge Thank You to the Teachers for organising the trip
- Next Meeting: Wednesday 21 June or 28 June TBC