

## Parent Forum - 14<sup>th</sup> March 2018

Present: Teri Morley - Oscko, Kirstie De-Machen, Amanda Shed, Clare Wisdom, Tina Holditch

1. Apologies for Absence: Georgia Richards, Vicky Hobson

2. Items raised by the school for feedback:

*Are there any aspects of the school curriculum parents would like more information or support on?*

Lots of positive feedback concerning the information parents receive via the class newsletters and termly planning overviews. Parents like the explanations of what has been covered in each subject, and links with Purple Mash and various websites. Parents would like more information on how to support their children with maths, particularly with regards to changes in the curriculum and the terminology used. TH explained that Mr Deakin is in the process of reviewing our Calculations Policy and would look to organise a Maths Information Evening once it was completed.

*Any informal feedback on school trips regarding price etc. would be helpful*

Parents felt that the school trips were great! The current price cap of £15 for a day trip was appreciated, and parents also appreciate the opportunity to pay for trips in instalments. A list of school trips, and their costs, at the start of the school year would make it easier for parents to budget.

3. Items raised by parents to Forum members:

*Could teachers share how the phonics sounds are taught and actions that sit alongside them?*

This is already covered in the evening session that Miss Dale runs in the Autumn. It may be that the parent who raised this was unable to attend, and did not receive the hand out Miss Dale provides. We can look to ensure that the information is published on the school website in future.

*Class pages to be interactive and signpost the children to websites and information, rather than downloading a newsletter*

Class newsletters, with the links to other relevant websites, are placed on the school website to enable parents to access them.

*Year 2 SATS - requests for a parent evening to discuss and obtain information about when they are being held etc.*

Miss Hutchings will be running two information sessions for parents- Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April 3:30 - 4:00pm and Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> April 7:00-7:30pm.

Further topics for discussion:

Mothering Sunday/ Fathers' Day gifts: Some parents were concerned that they had been asked to pay for the gifts this year, when they had been free in previous years. It was explained that the PTFA try to strike a balance between providing the gifts without charge some years and covering their costs in others.

Forest School: lots of positive feedback! We will be offering a session for parents in the summer, so they can experience Forest School for themselves, and meet Mrs Murray.

The Bulletin: some parents miss the extended dates list at the front! KDM explained that we constantly review the amount, type and method of communication we use in school, and try to respond to parental feedback where possible. However, we must strike a balance between too much and too little information! Having all the dates on the previous Bulletin from the start of the year, and then links to the school calendar on the website, with upcoming or new dates on the Bulletin, are ways in which we are trying to ensure parents receive the necessary information at the right times.

INSET days: the question was asked as to if we could group all five days together. TH explained that we use the days for training, which is often best conducted over time, rather than crammed in to just one week, when staff may well not have the time or opportunity to process and embed what they have learnt. Some issues will be a priority at different points in the school year. We also have to consider the availability of suitable people to deliver the training for us.

Grandparents' Day: a date has been set (Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June) and further details will follow at the start of term 6.

PTFA: membership is open to all parents, friends and grandparents - anyone who wishes to help!

Forum Membership: Georgia's term of office as a governor is coming to an end, so she will remain on the Forum as a parent, rather than a governor. Kirstie is also trying to recruit a new member from the Reception class parents! Some parents

are still unclear as to what the Forum is - a reminder to be added to future Bulletins!

4. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2018, 7pm