



PARENT AND CARER FORUM MINUTES

30.1.19

Present:

Mrs M Nash (Deputy headteacher)
Mr Kent (Parent)
Mrs Keutenius (Carer)
Ms Ludlow (Parent)
Mrs Meurice (Parent)
Mrs Westacott (Parent and governor)

Terms of Reference

- Agreed

Communication between home and school

- Currently no easy, quick way to communicate
- Letters in book bags unreliable
- Unanimous agreement that new communication system (Schoolcomms discussed) needs to be implemented quickly
- Mrs Westacott fed back that governors in support
- Introduction event with demonstration would be valued
- Could be rolled out to sample of parents / carers to trial
- Families busy and reactive
- Communication ambassador (TA?) per class to update frequently e.g. Gold Book pupils, events and reminders
- Pupils could be involved in updates e.g. posting homework reminders or resource requests
- Effective method of making payments and fundraising
- Effective method to gain greater response from parent questionnaires
- Saving of man hours for staff e.g. parents' evening and show tickets
- Timings of electronic communications important e.g. Sunday evening good time when families preparing for week ahead

Homework

- Homework club would be welcomed; senior leadership team to investigate
- Reports of inconsistency between classes; senior leadership team to investigate

- Homework must be regular and marked to recognise and encourage effort made
- Clear reading, spelling and maths tasks to allow parents and carers to see where child is working at and support any gaps deemed best
- My Maths effective resource
- Suggestion of topic tasks being broken down into stages e.g. research task, main task, evaluation task
- It would be beneficial for pupils to be encouraged to take ownership of homework from both school and home e.g. reminding each other through Schoolcomms and having access to homework club

Curriculum Development

- The school are currently updating and developing the curriculum further, with focus on developing the following areas through learning:

Developing independence
 Encouraging self-belief
 Learning how to fail (resilience)
 Fostering communication skills
 Encouraging self-expression
 Fostering creativity
 Encouraging enquiry
 Understanding diversity

- Mrs Westacott suggested Headstart programme and Mind as they offer valuable resources to support building resilience. Mrs Nash to investigate.
- Further time can be spent gathering views and ideas at our next meeting

AOB

- Feedback was given that further parents and carers would like to attend Forum but today's time of 2.30pm unsuitable. Today's attendees to gather feedback for more suitable time or please feedback to Mrs Nash.
- Concerns about Caterlink raised. A 25p increase per day for high quality meals from an alternative provider would not deter those present. Regular feedback could be acquired via Schoolcomms using Survey Monkey with a discount if satisfaction falls below a certain level.
- A parent has shared a campaign for all primary schools to have a defibrillator on site, which would also be accessible to the local community. It was suggested that fundraising for such an item could be done effectively using communication via Schoolcomms to ask for donations. Ms Ludlow suggested Scouts may be interested in joint fundraising. FoSS could also be approached. Mrs Nash to see if any additional funding available and research.

- A four week update on progress from items discussed at this meeting was requested and agreed.