

Parents Forum 12.05.23		
Attendees: JM, AF (school) DK, JK, LB, LM, EE, FB, AB, LC, AH (parents) Apologies: JR, HY		Action
Welcome and introductions		
Matters from last meeting: texting parents, Parent Forum noticeboard, behaviour policy	• New parent Arbor app has been rolled out – currently 50% parents signed up and we are continuing to promote it (information about how to use it on Arbor website and ICT staff have created a detailed how to guide on our website). • Long term aim is for this to be where all communications happen including messages, club choices and allocations, paying for dinners/events/trips, etc. • Currently parents can see their child's attendance. From next term, messages to parents will be sent via both text and notifications on the app. • From September, all messages will come via the app (exceptions will be made for the few families who do not have Internet phones). This means both parents will receive messages. Other things will be added gradually. • Excited by the forum's offer for a noticeboard to be provided and manages free of charge. JM to provide AH with CS email address to liaise with her about the installation. • AM thanks parents for their support and feedback at the last meeting and on the document he sent to them. He is currently in the process of recording a video to be published to all parents.	JM to publish the link to the guide about Arbor in the minutes: www.cliftonvilleprimary.co.uk/arbor-parent-portal-app
Environmental projects	• 10 YELs from KS2 currently taking part in project with Turner – making artwork from recyclable rubbish. This will	

	be a springboard for environmental projects run in school next year. • CS is asking for any suggestions or ideas and if any parents have any connections or know of schemes or things locally the school could get involved in. • JK has a friend involved in the beach clean-up project • Southern Water have donated water butt planters that reduce the risk of flooding by slowing the movement of water. These and the flowers were provided and are on every building in the school. • A parent queried the garden project and AF explained how it is partly funded by the PTFA and the fun run. It will be a quiet outside space, a place to grow vegetables to use and sell. The long term aim is for parents to be involved. The school is working with local artist and gallery owner Carl Freedman.	
Rejuvenation of the school library	• School is currently in the process of moving the library – this will be a much bigger space in the heart of the school and allow it to be used by a whole class at a time. • JM working with school librarian to decide layout and arrange it in consultations with Reading Ambassadors and School Council. • PTFA have kindly donated money to fund new furnishings. • Aim for library to be utilised the whole day including lunchtimes. • Would like murals/vinyls/book quotes on walls. Interested if any parents have any contacts – parents welcome to contact JM. • JM asking for any suggestions or ideas on how families/parents can be involved – both in the launch and	JM to consider suggestions and take plans to SLT

	moving forwards: ➔ September Come and See our new library ➔ Exploit links with KCC more – trips and visits ➔ Local authors and illustrators invited ➔ Rhyme time events for families with toddlers – could potentially get funding for this through the Wellbeing Hub House projects ➔ Open library half an hour after school each day – maybe just the winter, potentially a year group+siblings each day, manned by staff • JM thanked parents for suggestions	
Results of parent questionnaire regarding parent consultations	• LW conducted a questionnaire with parents on views on parent consultations. There was a good turnout to the questionnaire. • Parents gave a very mixed response of wanting face to face, virtual and a mix of the two therefore we are going to incorporate this into our plan for next and one of the parent evenings will be face to face – likely to be the first one of the year to help develop relationships with parents. • Details of this will come in time when we have arranged the logistics of this. We are a larger school than we were pre Covid when we did face to face appointments. We have liaised with other local schools of a similar size to see how they manage face to face appointments post Covid and gather ideas. • Some parents feel that as children get older, there's more to talk about/feedback e.g. test results and this reduces the time available to talk and ask questions. AF explained how secondaries give even less time. Parents suggested	JM to share parent suggestions with SLT

	that perhaps any data could be shared prior to maximise the time instead and make it clear what the channels are for parents to have further conversations if concerned after.	
AOB	• KS2 food portion sizes – seems small for their age. Staff have monitored this and don't feel this to be the case. This seems to be more the case with jacket potatoes where Y5 and 6 are only given half – could they have a whole one? • Parents shared that children have learnt to go to the back of the line as this way they get bigger portions. Kitchen staff are very accommodating if children ask. • Trialled year 4 eating in hall and from September both year 3 and 4 will so no children eating in classrooms anymore.	JM to share feedback about potatoes to CS.
Next meeting: Friday 7 th July 2023		