

Parents Forum Minutes

30th January 2019

Agenda Items	• Terms of reference • Feedback from parents evening. • Parental issues	Action
Register	Attendees- Heather Weitzel, Lauren Bucceri OD, KG, LC, EHM, SS, EM. JR, DJ	
Names on minutes	• Parents were happy to have just their initials on the minutes and have a photo in the notice board on the playground so they could be identified by other parents on the playground.	
Parents workshops	• Parents thought the idea of a creative writing workshop for parents run by an author in conjunction with Kent University was a good idea.	
Feedback from previous minutes	• Parents evenings in future will have reception classes in 2 rooms not one • The July parents evening will start in the afternoon with pupils being released to go home after lunch – time to be confirmed. • Menu on the website for parents to see what the children are offered, could we include what week the term starts on. Parents report that the children are now telling them more about their day including what they eat. • The school will not be selling bottles – the office is too busy. • We will be keeping the nativity performance as it is important the children know the story about where Christmas comes from. • 2 bins have been bought for the front of the school. • Teachers have been reminded not to give sweets as prizes (<i>however a biscuit was given to a child last week</i>) • The change in provision of fruit between ks2 and ks1 will be explained in the transition document that goes home with the child on transition day in July. Children can only eat fruit at break time.	
Christmas fayre feedback	• Parents who had previously attended a Christmas Fayre felt that the change for Dec 2018 meant that it felt safer, not so crowded and less chaotic.	

	However there were fewer activities. • Parents were shocked at how it didn't seem Christmassy – little decoration. There was little of the children to do e.g no face painting. The choir was amazing, but there was no one to introduce them or say when it had finished. There was no leadership there. • The big question raised was why there were no parents helping and why there is no PTFA. (raised again later)	
Topic work feedback	• Children are loving their topic work. • Doing project together with their parents is lovely. • They enjoy talking about their projects with the grown-ups- they like teaching their parents • When the letter is sent out about the project, could it possibly include websites to visit or places locally that may be of interest connected to the project?	
Issues raised by parents.	• PTA – parents wanted a PTA. They felt they could have decorated the hall and helped with the Christmas fayre. Parents felt a PTFA could be an asset to the school, it could reduce the pressure to organise events like the Christmas fayre. Mr. Luxmore in his article talked about families working with schools in the trust a PTFA would be a good way of showing this. The school has so much going on, but not a lot of things are shown to the outside world, it can seem quite bleak to outsiders. • A group of parents can make banners for the school. • Could letters that go home have dates on them. Spellings e.t.c get muddled if undated and the wrong spelling learned. • School payment system is working well – can extended day be paid for through it? • £1 was needed for dance club, but parents forgot and this was not followed up. How is this collected? • Could there be a brief description of what the club is please? • Could there be a text to remind parents about the second hand uniform shop – and also that they can donate towards it.	

	• Calendar on the App needs updating. • Issues were raised about collection from reception and year 1 classes at the end of the day. Different ways were discussed, and it was felt that parents going to the classroom was preferable as they got to speak to the teacher. However some parents don't seem to be aware of others and then it becomes dangerous. The bank it was felt was especially dangerous. Perhaps send text to ask parents to consider others when collecting from this area of the school. • It is amazing to see the progress of children in Reception since October, and a pleasure to see the children so happy. Parents loved the come and see opportunities, especially to see the classroom. • PE parents wanted to know how often the children should be having PE – most terms it is twice a week. Also parents asked if we had the mile a day – it is marked out on the playground waiting for introduction. • Printing children's own Christmas cards, parents had received many from friends and were disappointed not to be able to buy some from our school. (PTFA project?) • Kissing in the playground – parents asked if children could be told what is appropriate. • Headlice – with some children it seems to be constant, perception is that this has got worse since we stopped sending out letters. • Dojo points – a hit with the children – can parents use the app too? • Eco friendly school is brilliant – recycling pens e.t.c Parents trying to get other schools to follow suit. • Mrs Troth leaving – is anything being done? • National theatre is offering a training day for teachers. Is it something we would want? • It was questioned whether we were involved with the Turner (we looked into it and felt we couldn't commit) • Skip to be fit – do we want to be involved? •	
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Date for next meeting	TBD – in term 4	
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