

Parents Forum Minutes

24th April 2019

Agenda Items	• Last meetings minutes • Newsletters • Uniform especially hair styles. • Parental issues	Action
Register	Attendees- Heather Weitzel, Lauren Bucci OD, KG, LC, EHM, HB, DM apologies JR, DJ, EM	
Issues arising from last meeting	• Banner – PF were disappointed that this had gone ahead without referring back to the full forum. They felt that the judging was a bit exclusive. PF wanted all the children to be involved with everyone adding something to the banner – also wanted other parents to be involved. (HW explained the process involved. HW had checked with SLT – gone back to the person who suggested it from the PF and arranged a competition to get children's ideas. Competition judged by parent who will be making banner, parent who suggested it from the forum, head of school and a pupil from the school council. It is now being made). In future with ideas from PF one person is going to be identified as the link for that suggestion and school staff will link with that member if the idea is going to be moved forward. • APP calendar is still a year behind. PF feel that parents app is not useful. It deletes information after a short time, messages come through on the app that are the same as texts but later. • We will not be taking up the opportunity at the National Theatre – we have lots of things going on in the school and need to choose carefully which initiatives to engage in. They have to be supportive of the schools aims, and manageable by staff. • PF were thanked for doing the book sale and are looking forward to doing it again soon. • There will be no PTFA this year. • Year R and 1 leaving is still very busy – even worse now as double buggies	

	won't fit up as there are more reception activities out.	
Newsletters	Newsletters were discussed. The year group leader newsletter was appreciated and read by parents. It is good to know what is coming up in the term, days when the children have PE e.t.c. Could days when homework will be given be added to year group newsletters? Not all parents knew they could pick up a hard copy from the office, many prefer a hard copy to an electronic one. Perhaps a text could be sent again to this affect. Occasionally HT newsletter comes across more "grumpy" than the others, but the info contained in it is good.	
Uniform and hairstyles.	- There are more and more children in school with what is considered by the school to be inappropriate hair styles – dyed hair, or motifs shaved into the head. Just like we have a uniform so that everyone feels included and no one stands out for wearing different clothes – there should not be a distraction or "competitive" aspect to hair styles. - Parents said that text sent out about this caused issues as it was broad and some children and parents felt it was targeting them when it wasn't. PF was asked to form a sentence about suitable hair styles to go with the information about uniform. - PF noted that the presentation of pupils and uniform has improved greatly over the last year. - The wording of any sentence about hair styles needs to be school appropriate, inclusive and culturally sensitive. "Hair cuts should be age appropriate and suitable to the school environment – hair should not be dyed, unless temporarily for non school uniform days and short hair should not have patterns, or words shaved into it." - DM to be the link for this aspect.	
Issues raised by parents	ATTENDANCE – PF feel that it is very unfair for children to be penalised for being ill – some children are getting very stressed about being late or being ill. PF felt it is not the children's fault. The prizes for good attendance	

	are huge, and though it was felt it is unfair, PF could see why the school needed carrots to achieve attendance targets – and understood the academic reason for children needing to be at school. Could the prizes be smaller, or is there another way of dealing with attendance? • DOJOs – Can the parents be more involved in this? HW explained that it was new to the school and we needed to be using it for a while first. Could the parents have a letter about Dojos? Or could there be something on the website. Some parents are noting that children in other classes are getting more dojos than children in their child's class, or getting dojos for doing what is perceived as less. • ASSEMBLIES FOR PARENTS – These are great very positive response from parents. However the children could not be heard – is it possible to have microphones. • The office is great – the staff are so helpful – lovely ladies. Attendance ladies are good out the front of the school. • New street signs are good,. • Children have enjoyed the swapping classes for sharing learning.	
Date for next meeting	27 th June 5:30pm	