

Parent Forum 17.09.19

Led By Clare Pike (Interim Headteacher), Paven Kettory (Consultant Deputy) and Lisa Farrow (AHT)

PK Revisited and shared all the actions from the previous Parent forum

PK agreed that the notes of this meeting to be shared on the website

Parents could add items to the agenda but emphasised that there should not just be a list of problems but good suggestions or ways forward. This will allow the SLT to look into concerns and suggestions prior to the forum.

Actions to be addressed from the previous meeting

- **Parents felt maybe more training was needed for some of the mid-day assistants as they feel that they are not consistent in dealing with behaviour** – Mrs Kettory and Mrs Farrow have planned for training to take place for all staff with regards to dealing with behaviour and ensuring that there is a consistent approach.
- **Parents expressed that they don't know how to support their own children with their homework, especially maths as they were taught differently.** Discussed the idea of having more parent workshops – this will be planned into Autumn 2 and spring term to support the parents.
- **Communication – multi lingual letters** – Mrs Kettory is still looking into affordable ways in which this can be done.
- **Curriculum and Homework policy to be reviewed – parents expressed that the 'peer marking' is not checked.** Mrs Farrow reassured parents that staff have been spoken to about ensuring home learning is marked. She shared with the Parents the rationale behind the new home learning trails that are currently taking place in Y2 and 3. She clarified maths and English home learning should still be set each week and that the home learning grid is not the only home work that the children should be getting. She said that all feedback is welcome and would be fed into the Home learning policy as it is being reviewed. All views will be taken into consideration – pupils, parents and staff.
- **Healthy snacks and packed lunches** – A letter has been sent home to parents to try and encourage the children to have healthy pack lunches. After the half term (Aut) we will be having a bigger push on healthy snacks and lunches. We will be monitoring what the children are eating.
- **Parents expressed that they wanted a more 'contextual' curriculum which is linked to the real world.** Mrs Farrow fed back the changes to the curriculum so far and the plans that we have over the next year in order to create a fun and creative curriculum that reflects the cultural diversity we have in our school.
- **Some parents wanted to see their maths teachers as well on parents evening** – Mrs Farrow said that this will be ready to do for the spring parents evening.
- **Parents expressed concerns around the 'Dojo' reward system as some teachers are giving out too many and also some teachers are taking them away.** Mrs Farrow has sent an email to remind staff how the system works. It was relaunched in September with all staff, but reminders throughout the year will help ensure consistency between class to class. This is also going to be mentioned in staff briefings.
- **Parents wanted further clarification around 'Pen Licences'** . Mrs Farrow explained that the new Handwriting policy is currently being written and this will clarify the pen licences. Once this is complete, the parents and children will be informed how they work.

Actions From this meeting...

- **Home Learning** – Parents wanted clarification on quantity and frequency of homework. When Mrs Farrow was speaking about the trials in Y2/3, she clarified the quantities and frequency of Home learning. She added that she would ensure that this was also added to the Curriculum News letters that were going out at the end of the week.
- **Timetables** – parents would like to know when certain subjects especially PE was being taught so they can ensure that their children have their PE kits in school on the correct days. Mrs Farrow said she would clarify this on the curriculum Newsletters, however PE kits should be in school every day as PE days are subject to change due to weather or timetabling changes.
- **Calendar** – Parents would like an overview of trips and important dates for the year. Mrs Farrow explained that this something that we are working on and will be available to parents by Oct half term.
- **Read to success** – some parents wanted to clarify what Read to success is. Mrs Farrow clarified what Read to success is and said that this will be clarified on the curriculum newsletters.
- **Curriculum parent meetings took place but parents would like to see the slides on the school website.** – Curriculum power points from the year group meetings will be added to the school website.
- **Developing written comprehension strategies** – parents want more comprehension sent home and would like strategies to help their children. Mrs Farrow explained that we are currently developing staff training on this exact thing as we have picked up on the fact that our children are good verbally but turning their verbal answers into written form is more challenging for them. We have made comprehension as part of the reading cycle and have been sending home some examples for homework. School to check that year groups are sending comprehension home every now and then and strategies are given to parents so they can help their children.

NEXT MEETING IS IN THE EVENING – DATE TBC

Mrs Farrow, Mrs Kettory and Mrs Pike would like to express a 'big' thank you to all the parents who come to the parent forum and work with the leadership team to move the school forward.

Parents remember if you are unable you can also still have your say by filling out the 'Parent Forum Form' in the Reception area or to speak to a member of the SLT.