

All parents who were at the meeting agreed they would like to continue on the parent forum. We also agreed that we would increase the number to 3 per class to allow for parents not being able to attend. So we will have vacancies for 3 year 2 parents next year (currently Sapphire and Diamond class) and 4 year 1 parents (currently Opal and Ruby class).

It really is a good meeting and we talk about all sorts and have serious moments as well as fun. It has been a real success this year and I welcome more input from parents.

**Year 1 water:** it was briefly discussed as it had been clarified by parent mail and Mrs Gurr reassured parents that children are always told that they can have water and go to the toilet when they need to, and that we do have times when all the children are stopped and told to drink water e.g. in PE.

**Swimming:** Lots of positive comments about swimming. One parent who accompanies the children commented on how good Josh, the teacher is and what a good rapport he has with the children. We all agreed it was good for the children to have a male role model. It was also noted by a parent that their individual child's swimming ability had already improved. Another parent commented how her child is now independent at dressing himself after swimming. It was agreed that the fun of it as well as the peer activity and life skills was very important. Parents asked if this could also be passed onto Josh.

**Parent pay:** Parents asked if there was a possibility for going over to parent pay. Mrs Gurr said yes, but only for school trips, swimming as fund raising would have to go to ISA. Mrs Jennings will look into it.

It was agreed that the Year 2 visit to the EMC group was such a positive thing and we will continue it next year as both the children and the old people gain from it. Mrs Gurr explained how when the EMC group come here the Year 2 children get to serve them tea.

**Phonics:** A parent asked if they would receive results from the phonic check. Mrs Gurr explained that the individual results would be with the reports and commented that the children have done very well. All year 1 parents said how useful they had found the phonics sheet that had been sent home so they could support their children.

**Homework:** Parents of year 1 asked if they would be receiving challenge homework this term. Mrs Gurr will look into it. They also mentioned that the homework was being returned with no recognition or feedback or marking. One class said they had an opportunity to show their challenge to the staff. Mrs Gurr will look into this. She also suggested that we could possibly have homework achievement certificates.

**Awards:** It was asked if possible to increase the awards given in school to reflect a specific area eg writing or reading. A discussion then ensued about their being awards for areas that are not core subjects but skills. Mrs Gurr suggested as we are focussing on curriculum development we could have them for creativity or problem solving or questioning etc. It was agreed we would think about this and discuss with staff. Another school was cited as having a writing award each week and it stayed up for the week and the child had a certificate. There was also discussion about re-introducing the tea party for children who had received all ERICS.

**Playground buddies:** A parent asked about a child wearing a playground buddy bib on the playground as new nothing about it. Mrs Gurr explained that the school council/year 2 children are playground buddies so that other children can go and play with them if they have no one to play with. Mrs Gurr also explained that Midday assistants and teachers are also playing specific games with the children on rota. Skipping with a long rope, bowling, mirror me, targets and they have a new resource of big balls on an elastic. The parents were impressed with this as a result of having brought it up at previous forum meeting.

**Canopy:** Mrs Gurr explained that we are currently waiting to hear from a company that has gone into liquidation to see if they are going to honour our order and that the temporary canopies may be more long term. All agreed it is adequate.

**ERIC:** children are beginning to explain what their ERIC is for.

**Labelling:** Mrs Gurr asked for parents help to uniform and personal belongings named after having 17 jumpers and 13 cardigans, water bottles a NIKE top and other expensive labels in the lost property. It is time consuming and another job to do to have to display it or wash it etc. The parents suggested

'Name tags' - a company that are cheap and have very resilient name labels which also have a picture on the label to further aid with identification.

It was also suggested that sharpies could be used to decorate water bottles as well as writing the child's name.

**Reading records and group reading:** A parent asked about the group reading and the individual reading and what happens. Mrs Gurr explained that although it is always stamped as group reading the children read pages individually as well as with the group so the teacher can hear their individual progress.

Mrs Gurr asked how parents felt about last year's system for input on the **questionnaire and opportunity for input from parents** and it was agreed that this was a very good idea as parents enjoy giving their input and it is a good idea to be specific.

**Pupil input:** Parents asked if the children have any input. Mrs Gurr explained that they do, through the school council, but that the teachers also do pupil voice questionnaires around different subjects eg. What do you learn in art?/English/RE? , what would you like to learn? Is your work hard enough? Too easy? What do you know about ...? etc. We get some fabulous answers!

Mrs Gurr thanked the parents and said she thought the parent forum has been a great success and the parents felt so too and are looking forward to continuing.