

Parent forum minutes 4th March 2020

Present: Ms Winwood, Miss Ward, Mrs Craig, Mrs Whittaker, Mrs Wilkinson, Mrs Harman, Mrs Gurr and Mrs Jennings

Reception:

Mrs C asked if there was anything we could do about the situation around speeding on Church Road. There has been an accident at the weekend. Mrs Gurr suggested that the Parent Forum and school can join forces to see if we can encourage council to do something. Mrs G suggested that parent forum group could put together an email to send to parents (via school) re the situation and inform them about a petition. Following that they would then collect signatures from parents both infant and junior. The school would ask governors and school council to write letters and we could then if possible approach the council to deliver these by hand, and invite the local paper to report on it. Mrs Craig will look into who this needs to be directed to.

Year 1:

Ms W asked about what the school were doing around hygiene re the corona virus. Mrs G said we have spoken in assembly to the children about hygiene and handwashing; the link has been sent home for parents to access and share the film with children; more antibacterial soap is being bought for use in the classrooms, updates from DFE are passed on. Additionally, the children will now be required to wash their hands as soon as they come into school.

There then followed a general discussion about there always being liquid soap in school. While it is agreed that this is more hygienic than bars of soap there is a huge cost for dispensing liquid soap (as children this age will often overuse and the amount they need is far less than what is dispensed by pumps), additionally it is difficult to buy liquid soap that is not antibacterial which is actually better. This cost may have to go out to the parents. Ms W said she felt parents would pay it. Other parents at the forum, said they feel children will always get germs and need to develop resistance and that the germs often come from home. Mrs G said that children are still sometimes sent in having been sick and that will always be a difficult one to police and will not be impacted by liquid soap. However, liquid soap will be purchased for every class and the cost monitored and taken from ISA funds.

Year 2:

Year 2 generally: Mrs E had asked for it to be relayed that the parents are very happy with the whole Year 2 experience. She also commented that parents are happy with the notification on parent mail of letters sent in book bags.

Grandparents morning: Ms Ward mentioned good feedback re grandparents morning. We had grandparents coming from as far afield as Norfolk. Mrs G said the whole morning is wonderful and the grandparents **are so grateful. There were 109 grandparents.**

Spellings in year 2: It was asked if when the children got a spelling wrong could they write it again correctly. It was agreed at the meeting that this is something parents should do with the children.

Sign up board for parents evening: It was asked if we could do this online as parents who cannot get to the board are at a disadvantage. We do not currently have that facility, but it was agreed that the school will remind people who work that they can telephone if they are unable to get someone to sign up for them. Parent forum parents said they would be happy to do that for people. Mrs C asked if boards could be outside reception. Mrs G explained the reason it is all at the front is in case people

phone in and want to book or need to be reminded of their appointment. Going forward we will consider clipboards. Mrs C also mentioned a site called 'doodle poll' for school to look into as an appointment system on line.

Book sponsoring: Parents were happy to do this. Ms W suggested parents need to know how much was raised and how many books. This had been done on the newsletter already. Ms W also said parent had asked why if there is money in ISA fund it is not used for that. Mrs G explained that the remainder of the books and the upcoming book buying will be done that way, but that this was an opportunity to show parents the books we are buying and for there to be a connection through the label with a child or family to motivate children. It also meant parents could see what is meant by decodable books as required by OFSTED it wasn't just about raising the money.

Mrs W asked how much would be needed to do all the books we would like to do and Mrs G said thousands of pounds.

Mrs G also mentioned that the LSAs had suggested separate books for Friday afternoon read and it was agreed that this was a good idea.

Mrs Wi asked if parents could donate books and Mrs G said that is an option for the books in class. The school has shied away from this due to receiving 'toddler' age books, Disney books or old and tattered books, which then have to be taken to charity or binned. However, Mrs G will ask for books and be specific in what is required.

Mrs G asked about any comments re **homework** specifically in year 1, since last forum. Mrs H and Mrs Wh both said there was more detail and parents were happier.

Mrs G asked about Study bugs. Parents were very positive about it and liked the fact it reminds you to check in if your child has been off, gives you information and advice about what to do or try, gives information about other areas or bugs. It was agreed that this is a useful app and that the change to using it for parent mail as in notice to parents last week, should pose no issue.

There was a large donation of **clothes for the collection** which was done jointly with juniors.

Year 2's really enjoyed **trip to juniors** to read. Other parents mentioned that the juniors visiting and reading with the children was also enjoyed. Everyone felt this was a lovely thing for all the children to do and something to pursue more regularly.

CJ 4.3.2020