

Spring Term 2015

Parent Forum

Classes 3 and 4

Minutes of the meeting held on Friday 13th March
9.00 - 10.10am

Present: Mrs Robinson (HT), Mr Benn, Mrs Howden, Mrs Binns, Mrs Shelton, Mrs Greenwood, Mrs Lyell, Mrs Smith, Mrs Pickard, Mrs Grundy, Mrs West and Mrs Bell.

Apologies: Mr and Mrs Gallagher, Mrs Parker

At the beginning of the meeting Mrs Robinson reviewed the actions from the Autumn Term Parent Forum.

1. Home/School Relationship

- All parents present felt that relationships between Mrs Kingham, Mr Wheatstone and Miss Elliott and children were very positive and that staff followed up concerns effectively.
- Parents reported that they continue to find that the end of autumn term pupil reports provide valuable information that builds on discussions from parents consultations.
- Mrs Robinson encouraged parents to use the email facility if they wanted to contact a specific member of staff - indicating that staff would try and respond within a couple of days.

2. Home/School Communication

- Everyone present felt that communication between home and school was very good.
- Mrs Robinson asked for feedback on the Friday News as it can sometimes feel that parents haven't read it! Discussions were held about whether the weekly newsletter was too long etc. All parents present said that they found the Friday News to be very valuable and no significant changes should be made. Mrs Robinson said that an overview of the next week's key events and letter deadlines was to be included on the front cover following a suggestion from the Class 1/2 Parent Forum.
- A request was made that more letters are posted on the website so that parents can access copies if they have been misplaced or not received as deadlines are often tight. Mrs Robinson agreed that this was a very good idea and that from now on school would endeavour to do so and it was a new routine that needed to be established!

3. Curriculum and Homework

- Positive comments were made about the homework activities that children receive and their relevance to current learning.
- A discussion was held about the amount of homework that children receive and a range of responses were received - a couple of parents requesting more and others saying that they felt their child received plenty! As a result Mrs Robinson will look at the quantity of homework Class 3 get especially with a focus on Year 4s and preparation for Class 4.
- Mrs Robinson highlighted that in the summer term Class 4 will receive a period of 'transition homework' which prepares Year 6 for their move to secondary school.

- Mrs Robinson informed parents that Class 3 will have a pottery day shortly with James Oughtibridge - a sculptor.
- There isn't going to be a Musical soiree this Easter but in its place there will be a summer concert.
- During the summer term Class 3 will receive rugby coaching from Hedley Verity from Wharfedale RUFC and Class 4 are to have tennis coaching.
- Staff are currently starting to plan for a maths and e-safety evening in the summer term.

4. LSA

- Mrs Lyell and Mrs Binns, members of the LSA, discussed the up and coming LSA events which include a cinema night, the Town Hall Fayre and also a Bollywood night and requested support from parents in running these activities. They highlighted that even an hours help at the Town Hall Fayre would be invaluable and encouraged everyone to get involved.
- The LSA are currently raising funds to support improvements in the playground such as the purchase of some picnic benches so that the children can sit and read at playtimes or play table top games such as chess.

5. National Testing and Assessment

- Mrs Robinson discussed the forthcoming Year 6 SATS and highlighted that they will take place in the week beginning the 11th May.
- With the introduction of the new curriculum Mrs Robinson discussed that assessment methods in school are changing and children will be assessed as 'emerging' 'expected' and 'exceeding' the expected standards for each year group.

6. Health and Safety

- All parents present felt that there were no specific health and safety concerns. In addition they all felt that the school had supported parents extremely well during the bad weather and that information had been communicated clearly to allow parents and children to travel safely.
- Mrs Robinson informed parents that the pedestrian gates on the playground are to be bolted at playtimes as part of the schools safeguarding. They will be locked from approx. 10:30- 10:45am and then 12:25 to 1:00pm. If parents require access to school between these times they will need to contact the school office prior to arrival.
- The wooden mushrooms and also the pergola are to be removed from the woodland area as they are no longer safe so no access will be allowed to this area until this has happened.
- A discussion was held about children walking to school and the possibilities of the walking bus - this is something that will be explored further.

7. Behaviour

- Parents had no concerns about behaviour.

8. Parent views/Suggestions for development

- No suggestions made.