

# Parent Forum Minutes

**2/12/2016**

(Red = Actions to be taken)

Present: Please see enclosed list of parents.

Apologies from: S Watson, N MacDonald, S Pellecchia, D Dixon Smith, K Stafford and J Edwards.

Liz Walker (Chair/ Governor), Matthew Brookes (Head), Rachael McKeown (Pastoral SLT) and Clare Timms (Staff/ Governor)

## **1. Minutes from last meeting**

- The expectations of The Parent Forum had not yet been set out in a Newsletter. It was agreed that most parents communicate with members via text, email or verbal means.  
**This is to be included in the next Newsletter.**
- It was noted that parents had requested a list of suitable revision guides. MB replied that the evening for information about SATs has been brought forward this year ( ) Advice on revision guides will be in place by then.
- There was some discussion as to whether WASPs should have a new name with the possibility of a competition through Purple Parliament.
- **A Rewards Tab should be included on the school Website.**
- The nature of School Residential trips was discussed. The School would like to provide three trips:  
Year 2 – overnight  
Year 4 – 3 nights  
Year 6 – 4 nights  
MB is looking into making the Year 4 and year 6 trips different, so that one would be an Outward Bound activity type trip while the other is possibly a more geography based trip.  
**The Parent Forum is to set up a Working Committee to investigate a possible new Year 6 trip. To be assisted by LW.**
- It was reported that some parents were not happy with the current School photographs. Some would prefer Class Photos at the beginning of the year. Mb explained about the introduction of Earwig which should enable parents to purchase more natural pictures of their children whilst working in school.

## **2. School Dinners (Y6 rep)**

Some parents had complained that the children who are last into dinner often miss out on choices of food. MB stated that dinners are excellent with a massive uptake. MB to confer with Linda (Cookie) concerning possible pre-ordering of dinners. Some parents were concerned about a lack of vegetarian choice, but this has now been sorted out and Cookie is happy to provide alternatives.

**3. Residential Trip for Year 2 (MB)**

MB is planning to sort out an overnight trip for Y2.

**4. Academy Update (MB)**

MB stated that everything had gone as planned and the school converted to Academy status on 1/9/16, as a part of The Symphony Learning Trust.

MB added that there are plans for two new primary schools in Ashby around 2020 and Willesley hope to be putting forward a Trust Tender to run these schools.

**AOB**

- **Spellings**

There was a comment from parents of Y4 that there were too many spellings given out on one occasion.

MB explained that children were also learning spellings through Marmalade, a similar idea to Strawberry Jam and lemon Curd which are being used to help children with maths.

- **Maths**

If parents felt their children were stuck, they should first talk to the class teacher, who would also be willing to show parents copies of Symphony Learning Grids from the children's maths books.

It was suggested that the School hold an evening to explain Maths Methods currently in use.

MB explained that intervention occurs in many ways throughout the school. There are intervention groups in years 1 – 6. There are Progress groups before school and Booster Groups in Y6. Much intervention in both maths and English takes place in assembly, early morning and ERIC time (Everybody Reading In Class, straight after lunch). These would be discussed with the parents concerned at Parents Evening.

- **Less sugar based prizes at the Christmas Fair**

- **Reading Records**

Some parents felt Reading records were not well used, a good resource not being made full use of.

MB will discuss this with staff.

- **Year 3 Information Evening**

Parents commented on the huge disparity. MB has since spoken to staff.

- **Missing P.E.**

There was some concern that children regularly miss P.E. to do extra work such as reading comprehension. MB said parents must entrust the school to make these decisions.

- **Teacher absence**

Parents commented that one teacher had been absent unexpectedly two years ago, but MB confirmed that this time the absence was planned for and covered appropriately.

Termly year group letter should let parents know when different teachers covered some days.

- **Parent Mail**

Parents wondered if the school could use this. MB said it could possibly be linked to Parent Pay?

MB to investigate.

- **Costumes**

Parents wondered if school could send out a text about donating/ passing on costumes once finished with by a year group.

#### **NEXT MEETING**

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2017 – 2pm

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2017 – 2pm