



**Ashby Willesley Primary School, Packington Nook Lane, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leicestershire LE65 2QG**

**Part of the Symphony Learning Trust**

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Headteacher: Mrs C Dilks

Deputy Head: Mr T Barrow

Assistant Head: Mrs A Wilder

Minutes – Parent Forum – 28<sup>th</sup> October 2022 on site – 2pm-3pm

Present – CD, SRL, THG, AH, LB, LT, KS, MM, NS

Apologies: Sharon Harris-Christensen

Minutes from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022 – Agreed

Welcome and introductions from all. CD explained to all that the purpose of the forum is that it is a positive forum and not used for complaints. We use it for ideas of how to move the school forward.

Feedback to the school

Acorns – My youngest started school in September and I couldn't be happier. The acorn team are brilliant and it amazes me how they do it.

Acorns – What events are planned and have they picked up following COVID? CD – Dates for the year have been sent out today via Weduc. Events are starting to pick up and you will see from the list that we have sent dates for Christmas, class assemblies, sports day etc.

Acorns – Religion and beliefs celebrations – can we celebrate other religions and beliefs CD – In school we value and acknowledge everyone's religion and beliefs but follow our curriculum which is a diverse curriculum.

Acorns – could we have a wellbeing day to include yoga, massages and healthy eating etc CD - we have just had our mellow yellow day in support of mental health awareness but we do build well being into every aspect of the curriculum and particularly our PSHE curriculum.

Acorns – what will we be doing for world book day, will it return to costumes following last years pyjama day CD – the emphasis of world book day needs to be on encouraging reading for pleasure and not the costume. With the cost of living crisis there will be too much pressure on parents to buy a costume and they do get competitive. The idea behind pyjama day is that children can then think about their favourite bed time story. We haven't yet decided what we will do for next year – all parents voiced a preference for pyjama day as it was easier for them.

Acorns – Can we do a book swap event to help children who don't have many books at home? CD – Book swap events, whilst seem easy to manage can be very time-consuming checking books for appropriateness and that they are in good order. We support children with books and

do accept donations to the school. The PTA are looking into the possibility of giving every child a book for Christmas.

Acorns – Do we have term dates for the next 2 years SRL Yes, will get them sent out next week.

Year 1 – A big thank you to the teachers for making the children so settled in year 1. They are fantastic and the open classrooms was a fantastic event. Can we do open classroom events for all year groups? CD- Not currently in directed time for staff however we could look at it for next year. Possibility of doing having open classroom after end of year transition so you can meet the next teacher and see where the classroom is. Will consider doing a full open classroom for year 1 and year 3 next year as they are large transitions with most change due to the change of key stage.

Year 1 – Quality of PE kit seems to be poor particularly the t-shirt, can parents' source from elsewhere and does it have to say Willesley on the back. CD – Having spoken to uniform shop they are happy to accept exchanges. Can you also please email photos to SRL so that she can look into further. Yes, it does have to say Willesley on the back as it makes the children look smart.

Year 1 – lost property, particularly fleeces. CD – we now have 'lost property monitors' that will go around every day and return anything that is labelled. Please ensure you use the child's full name when labelling. PTFA are going to send reminders about stampastic.

Year 1 – Bad individual photos and high cost CD – following the feedback on the photos we are looking at a number of other suppliers and are hoping the parent forum will help us choose

Year 1 – Weduc – some people are unable to access forms, can we have paper forms sent out? CD if this is the case can those people contact SRL directly so this can be looked into. Everyone should be able to access forms.

Year 1 – Harvest festival – we would like to be able to see the harvest festival. CD –We had a vicar in to visit who ran the assembly. We have in the past taken all children to the church but this isn't what is right for the children. There will be other chances to see children perform in the year but for harvest it is just not possible to fit all parents in. Parents - KS2 harvest was much better as it was less crowded

Year 3 – Unhappy with clubs complete admin team. CD – please send any complaints directly to them if you feel able to and copy the school in so we can follow it up. If you don't feel you are able to raise directly with clubs complete send to SRL who will raise for you

Year 3 – More communication for lunchtime activities so we can send trainers etc in CD – all activities run at lunch time can be done in school shoes and we do not want children changing. There are lots of different activities to choose from and we have just introduced football free Fridays

Year 3 – How are children chosen for activities such as the recent sports at Ashby school – CD We have a limited number of places on each event. We keep a record of who has attended and will choose different children for different activities across the year

Year 3 and Year 5 – Questions around reading/spellings and TT Rock stars/ homework  
Can we reintroduce reading buddies – CD I will look into it

How does accelerated reader work – CD – I will get the information sent out for you and moving forward ask that it be sent out as part of the transition information

How are spellings chosen – CD – Each year group has a set list to learn across the year and the rest will be dictated by the curriculum and what spelling patterns they are learning.

TTRS – incentivise with the use of regular targets – currently there is a ‘battle’ between year groups and there will be lots of incentives across the year

Homework – Does it get marked. In line with the policy, it will always be acknowledged but not necessarily marked. Any issues with homework will be raised

Year 5 – Reading Diaries, does anyone check these, there is no feedback to parent’s CD – reading in KS2 is more focused on guided reading sessions with groups of children therefore not practical to provide written feedback. Verbal feedback is given at the time and reading diaries are used to monitor what reading happens at home.

Year 5 – Do we have targeted mental health support CD – Yes, we have a school ELSA who works 4 afternoons per week supporting children with a range of needs and we also have the PSHE curriculum.

Year 5 – What are we doing to support the cost of living crises. CD – there is lots of support available to those who need it most. We can help to access foodbanks and have issued vouchers for coats with the help of Ashby rotary club. Anyone who needs support is encouraged to speak in confidence to either SRL or CD