

## **Parents Forum Minutes**

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

Present: Please see enclosed list of parents.

Apologies from: Michelle Ellis, Alison Taylor and Jill Edwards.

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

**1/2 Review of minutes:** See Action Plan.

### **3 Homework:**

There was some discussion of the types of homework given out in school. Some parents saying that they would like the choice of homework to include Maths and English work sheets so that parents would be able to see and assist with work currently being taught in class.

MB explained that while homework cannot be compulsory, children are encouraged to complete it and offered support in class when necessary.

Parents also wanted to be able to email teachers directly with any concerns. At the moment, they can email the office and this will be forwarded to the teacher concerned.

**MB said he would consider direct emails to teachers on a trial basis, and would consult with staff.**

### **4 Crossing Patrol on Lower Packington Road:**

Parents asked if, since the Crossing lady on Lower Packington Road had been absent recently (and is rumoured to be leaving soon) the lady on Tamworth Road zebra crossing could take up her post instead.

MB commented that Crossing Patrols are employees of LA, who risk assess the roads and appoint patrols accordingly.

**MB will forward parent's comments to County Hall.**

## **5 Staff on Gate:**

Parents commented that there is not always a member of staff on the gate at home time.

MB replied that Mrs Jones had recently been unwell and is having a health phased return to work and her gate duty has been mainly covered by Mrs Taylor. MB discussed the effectiveness of gate duty, saying that he often stands at the gate and speaks to parents but has no idea which children have gone though. He pointed out that the main point of security is at the classroom door; children are always instructed to return if not collected.

## **6 Leavers Gift**

Some parents of older children have been advised not to buy the class photos as they receive these as a leaving gift.

**MB replied that this was not the case and a text should be sent out to let parents know this.**

Some parents commented that the current choice of photo packages available to buy is not great. MB reminded them that they can now purchase photos of their children in action in school from Earwig.

## **7 Any Other Business:**

1. Parents admired the new Hoodies, worn by staff, and asked if they could be made available to the children. Ivanhoe do this (using the firm, Bliss, at a cost of £15 each) with surnames on the back.

**MB to investigate.**

2. There was further discussion about children being rushed at dinner, and the last children to eat having a limited choice. MB

said the children are rotated, so different year groups are last, and time is tight; the situation is being monitored.

3. Some parents are having technical problems with Earwig – such as no sound on videos. MB advised them to let the office know via email if this occurs.
4. Parents asked about how new classes are organised and if MB is open to discuss changes. MB said that they are organised by class teachers, who take into account: children's friendship preferences, ability, gender, pupil premium children to provide a balanced split of year groups. Changes would only be made with good reason.
5. Next Year Parents Forum to remain the same apart from bringing in Foundation parents.
6. Next meeting: Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2017.