

Parent Forum meeting

Monday 15th October 2018

Present: MS, TM, NE, DC, KL, CD, SR, CS, LT, TW

Apologies: NB

Class: Codden	Class: Tarka	Class: Barum	Class: Saunton	Class: Exmoor	Class: Lundy
Claire Dashwood R Sam Lane R	Steph Reed Y1 Kim Gibbs Y1 Catherine Sandbach Y2	Louisa Thomas Y3 Kerry Langridge Y2	Natalee Enns Y4 Donna Clark Y4	Nuala Begg Y5 Toby Willcocks Y5	Tamsin Marshall Y6

Introductions and protocols

Melanie explained how the parent forum had worked in previous years and outlined some of the projects that had been carried out in order to effect change:

Protocols: awareness of confidentiality and data protection, issues with individual children/adults not to be brought to forum, however general areas such as behaviour policy can. (parent forum are advised to direct parents to the class teacher in the first instance if there is a specific individual involved)

Items Brought forward:

Inconsistent email communication:

There is a problem with some emails going through and some not. Parents are advised to check their email junk or spam. If some are getting through, our systems are up to date, it may be the email receiver that is blocking them.

Lengthy discussion about how communication can be improved and more instantaneous for parents without compromising data protection and confidentiality. Some year groups have Whatsapp groups set up by parents. *It is important to note that these communications don't come direct from school as has been perceived by some parents; therefore still relying on parents passing on information.

Considered use of social media, APPS or our website. If home-learning were to be electronic this would save teacher time and ensure that everyone has the information without having to rely on the child remembering their book. It would also be better for the environment.

Action: MS to investigate possibilities with current systems: Eschools(our website provider), 'Eduspot'(our current payment system), I log?

PForum to find out what other schools do and what other APPS might be considered.

Mymaths: Not accessible for tablets

Action: NE to find previous info about how to get 'mymaths' on to different devices (MS has it working on her tablet) This will be shared via the newsletter (MS)

Procedures for new classes (routines etc for parents to be aware of)

Discussion about new routines and changes set for September when children moved classes. A letter was sent out but parents would have liked more time to meet the teachers and talk about the new systems especially now that they are not able to come into class in the mornings (due to class sizes growing and delayed start time for learning) DC suggested this happen as part of the Transition day, usually held on 29th June. Parents could be invited in after the children have spent some time with their new class group.

Action: DC to follow up and plan for this summer term 2019. Bring forward the November 2018 parent consultations and allow time for parents to see work and get to know more about the class. (open eve/day as well as consultations?)

Lunch Choices

How can parents of Key Stage 1 children have more control over what the children choose to eat?

Now that parents are not coming in to class their children are tending to choose the same thing every day (ham wrap!)

MS explained that choices don't change after registration. CS suggested giving the teacher a check list for the week. DC reflected on problems around flexibility for parents with a weekly choice. Coloured bands? Putting counters in pots? self registration on electronic white board? Parents accessing electronic register? All discussed. It was agreed that Key stage 2 children should be able to make their

own sensible choices. The menu was recognised as varied, the issue appears to be with the children restricting their own choice. Pf were invited to meet with the kitchen staff to share ideas.

Action: MS to find out if our 'eduspot' system is adaptable to allow parents to directly choose lunches for their children. Set up a trial for Key Stage 1 children/parents

(parent open lunches) **Action:** MS will speak to the kitchen staff about inviting parents in again. This may now be restricted due to the increased number of children on each sitting.

Access to school for push chairs: The poor access to school was discussed, MS explained how the county budget for access, it is linked to a child attending the school with a disability. As we have none we are not eligible for funding to address the disabled access problem. If the pre-school is successfully moved to site this could create further problems. Could we create a holding bay for the pushchairs?

Action: MS to take the concern to the governing body for consideration

Traffic speed and awareness: parents are concerned about the speed at which vehicles travel down the main road including the public transport in the lane. How well known is the informal one way system for Mount Pleasant?

MS suggested the PForum carry out another travel awareness week which involves all classes and potentially the Parish or County Council. Are we entitled to a lolly pop person?

Action: MS to source travel awareness dates and discuss with teachers so that they can plan for it.

Gender neutral toilets: This has been put forward to the next meeting. (Please gain feedback on the issue as per email)

Date of next meeting: **proposed for Monday 3rd December at 2.15pm** (we might have mince pies...)

Please bring forward any other ideas/queries and concerns for the meeting

Agenda:

Update on communications

Update on possible systems for ordering lunches

Teacher feedback regarding online homework and communications (inc mymaths)

Governor response to access

Proposed date and planning for travel awareness week

Gender neutral toilets

Any other items put forward