

Parent Forum meeting

Present: CH, SM, EH, SR, CS, LR, LD, MS, DC

Date: 5th February 2020

Apologies: NE

Protocols

Awareness of confidentiality and data protection, issues with individual children/adults not to be brought to forum, however, general more strategic areas such as rewards, parking, lunch choices can. (parent forum are advised to direct parents to the class teacher in the first instance if issue is specific or needing urgent attention, other items may be directed to Governors)

Class: Codden	Class: Tarka	Class: Barum	Class: Saunton	Class: Exmoor	Class: Lundy
Caroline Ham Saf Mabin	Eleanor Harrison Tawni Thomas	Sarah Bale Steph Reid Natasha Owen	Sarah Capner Catherine Sandbach Louisa Davies	Natalee Enns Lisa Rogers	Tobie Wilcocks

Agenda Items:

- Review of previous minutes and actions
- Update on protocols and aims
- Use of class lists for Parent forum?
- Curriculum coverage and information for parents
- Rewards in school and links to behaviour policy
- Parent questionnaire

Minutes:

Items Brought forward before the meeting date:

- Use of class lists for Parent forum?

The group will set up and trial to see how well it works, then possibly encourage classes to use instead of other social media - contact Simon Mills as admin

- Curriculum coverage and information for parents

The forum were happy that the information is on the website and that they can ask for more detail.

Swimming policy needs to be added also - Action MS

- Feedback from meeting with Kitchen Manager

Thank you to Natasha for meeting with the kitchen manager and admin staff. Please see additional notes made below.

Can the school raise awareness for the children around healthy eating? Add posters? Encourage choice from the salad bar? DC to discuss with staff

- -Water bottles: can we bring our own, can school ones be changed from plastic
- -encouragement to the kids to ensure drinking enough

Yes children can bring their own bottle, the school ones cost £1, only water to be provided no juice/squash

- -when does school start talking to girls about periods etc
- (should this be an ask a teacher?) (Mrs Crispin is the subject lead for this)

Year 6 have an input in the summer term, other year groups discuss healthy relationships as part of PSHE, we are looking at buying a scheme that covers everything including Relationships and sex education. The parents will be consulted about the curriculum that will evolve from this.

- Rewards in school and links to behaviour policy

MS to discuss with teachers and to write up an explanation for the website, also need to review the merit system idea and how effective it currently is for all children. Does the goal work?

Could we incorporate a score for the class? The reading challenge is de motivating some children - need for a review? Something different for the summer term?

- Information about behaviour and incidents is not always getting to the parents. How can we make this more efficient but not too time consuming for the teachers? Parents would like to know that things have been dealt with on the day so that they can discuss with the child.
- Why are most problems revolving around Y6 football at play times? Can we address this as a school?

- More traffic:
- -encourage adults to turn engine off while waiting for pick up, to reduce car fumes - [add to news letter](#)
- -can there be a zebra crossing just up from school. [Need to check with Council about this - action?](#)
- Parent questionnaire: [a reminder to use parent view online](#)
- Other:
- Lock on toilet in Exmoor : [Site manager](#) How often are toilets cleaned? [Daily](#) Is there enough soap? [Yes, if not children could alert a member of staff to refresh](#)

Date of next meeting: [Wednesday 29th April 2.30pm](#)
[Please forward items for the agenda](#)

Kitchen meeting feedback: Natasha

1. The portion sizes are bigger than the governments recommend. Jackie seems to know the children well and those who seem to eat more she does fill the plates even more than that. Also the children on second sitting can come up and get seconds on mains and those on first sitting are encouraged to get seconds in the form of fruit. Which by all accounts regularly do.

2. Yoghurts in pots were stopped due to the eco councils concerns on plastic use. The school tackled this by getting big pots of yogurts and putting it in bowls. However this wasn't taken up by the children and the waste was too great. So it was stopped. We have discussed the option of going back to the eco councils and suggesting that they tried the big pots but it didn't work and due to the fact the children's nutrition being higher importance they could try and reduce plastic somewhere else.

3. Bread and butter will start being put out and a lunch time monitor will serve this to keep on mind children with dairy needs.

4. Salad bar and fruit bar is pushed however doesn't seem to be taken up by the children often. We decided to put a salad plate on every table in the hope that the children will take it as it is right in front of them potential dips will be put with it to encourage conception.

Regards the wraps and rolls the children are told to fill them with whatever salad they like to bask them out. Once again this option doesn't seem to be taken up. Perhaps it could be encouraged by parents also?

5. Puddings are available to all children on who are having school dinners regardless of which choice they have. Seconds are not available to this due to the sugar concerns. Again, regulated by government standards. However, they can have fruit as well if desired.

6. The butchers has changed to promote local buying and they children seem to be preferring it. The main dishes seem to be more popular since this change.

7. Sauces on dinners are plenty and vegetables are blended down to keep the vegetables intake up. This is prepared freshly by the staff.

8. Juice option will be twice a week. This is to encourage fluid intake by children who don't drink the water as much. There are concerns of dehydration especially through the summer months.

The sense I got from Jackie is she is, to her credit, passionate about food and the children getting what they need. She appears to know the children really well and what they like. Willing to adapt as required. She too feels that food is so important for each child to achieve their full potential.

I hope I have covered all the concerns. If there are any further concerns the office would like to hear them so it can be incorporated into the menu after half term. This is being decided at the moment so I think they'd love any ideas.

Thanks ladies and gents.