

Parent Forum



Date of meeting: 07/12/2021

School Representatives: Mr Mills (Head), Mrs Boothby (EWB Worker)

Parent Representatives: Miss Thompson, Miss Millington, Miss Mennell, Miss Joyce, Miss Arnett, Miss Colclough, Mrs Rawson

Mr Mills began the meeting by thanking parents for giving up their time and then presented some facts about the school to parents to help them understand the school's context better, and some of the challenges it faces.

He then went on to discuss the purpose of the 'Parent Forum' in helping identify the strengths and key areas for development from parents' perspective.

He noted Mrs Boothby's presence at the meeting and one parent (echoed by all others) commented on how Mrs Boothby is a real asset to the school.

Mr Mills then opened the floor to parents to speak about any concerns they had or any they were aware of which the school could work on to improve the relationship and or the functions of the school. The below points were raised and discussed at length:

Point Raised	Explanation	Action(s)
<p>Communication is not as strong as it could be – both from school staff to parents and school staff to each other.</p>	<p>Communication is always an area that could be improved and the school has worked hard to improve the way in which it communicates with parents.</p> <p>The school has many platforms to support communication – Marvellous Me, SeeSaw, hard copy letters, Twitter, Facebook, the school website.</p> <p>Communication between teachers happens regularly and when children move from one class to another, there is a transition meeting where teachers discuss all of the pupils in their class. It was agreed that as a result of lockdowns and the pandemic, that this may not have been as efficient as it usually is.</p> <p>It was noted that some parents feel communication at the end of the school day from the class teacher's to parents has reduced. It was acknowledged that teachers have lots of children to dismiss at the end of the day and that this will</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher's to remain on the playground after children have been dismissed for any parents who need to talk to them. • When children are transitioning to the next year group and the end of the year, teachers will discuss each child as well as involving parents/carers views where required.

	always take priority but that teacher's will remain on the playground for a short while if parents need to chat to them afterwards.	
It is too crowded around the Y3/4 doors at the end of the school day.	The cones were initially introduced as part of our COVID-19 risk-assessment, following the guidance in place at that time. When many of the restrictions were lifted on return to school in September 2021, we removed the need for parents/carers to line up at the cones.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cones for the end of day leaving procedure will be re-introduced from Monday 13th December. • Staff to be visible around the Y3/4 area to encourage parents/carers to stand behind their designated cones.
Some children are going home at the end of the day saying that they were hungry; haven't had enough time to eat their lunch and/or by the time they get in there is no food left.	<p>On point 1, due to the large number of children to get through the dinner hall in the time allocated, sittings have to be swift however, it was agreed that this could be slowed and that leaders will re-look at how lunchtimes are organised so that children do not feel rushed. It was noted that in some cases, children were eager to get outside quickly to play with their friends and would therefore not eat all of their lunch.</p> <p>On point 2, this was a surprise as since returning in September, we have not had any occasions where options have run out and, in fact, on most days there is plenty of food left over for children to have seconds.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Headteacher to meet with senior lunchtime supervisor to plan lunchtime sittings so that all children feel they have had plenty of time to eat. • Staff in the hall at lunchtimes to monitor children's consumption and encourage them to eat more (if there is concern that they have not eaten much).
Children should be allowed to drink from their water bottles when needed.	<p>The school policy is that all children across the school should have access to water should they need it. Children are encouraged to bring in their own water bottles, which they can access at points throughout the day.</p> <p>It was stated that to prevent lesson disruption, children were encouraged to fill up their water bottles at break and lunchtimes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A reminder email to be sent to all staff with regards to the school policy and expectation.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 1st February @ 2:00pm