

MINUTES OF THE PARENT FORUM MEETING – 20TH MARCH 2017

PRESENT	Kelly Stock Kaylee Seymour Jenny Nichols Melinda Lavender Jo King Adrian Knights	Head Parent Forum Rep Parent Forum Rep Parent Forum Rep Parent Forum Rep Chair of Governors
ABSENT / APOLOGIES	Clare Head Claire Barker	Parent Forum Rep Parent Forum Rep
UNIFORM	ALL	<p>Uniform purchase was discussed following concerns raised by the PTA re access during the summer holidays and not being able to try on the clothes. Parking was also mentioned as this was difficult to park outside the present suppliers safely.</p> <p>It was agreed the Shop in Maldon would be willing to stock and sell, providing pop up's and a try on / exchange service. It was suggested the school to ask the present providers if they would like to attend the Summer Fete to sell remaining stock.</p>
SWIMMING	ALL	<p>This was the main topic of discussion as a letter had been distributed by the school in relation to funding / costs and government cuts. Numerous conversations had resulted on the social media</p>

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		<p>sites giving reasons for those who had not paid and the reasons why.</p> <p>14 letters and emails had been received into the office siting the cases against closing the pool in the winter months. 2 emails wrote to agree with the closure. A number of the same parents also contacted members of the Parent forum directly. Miss Stock had also been given details of an online petition (at the time of the meeting there were 137 signatures) but having checked the signature – a significant number of these signatures do not pay for the swimming so this was discounted.</p> <p>From the emails and letters Parents expressed they were willing to pay extra but were either unhappy at the closure for it lacked continuity for the swimming lessons or that they would rather not let their children swim in winter blaming colds and generally being unwell with wet hair.</p>
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		<p>Alternative PE was discussed if the swimming lessons were to stop during the Winter period.</p> <p>Water Safety Courses, visits from the RNLI and paramedics were all ideas to keep the water issue to the forefront due to parents concerns about children drowning.</p> <p>The pool funding is already in a deficit and even if the outstanding monies were paid there would still be a struggle for the next 5 years given the 8% funding cut nationwide from the Government.</p> <p>Alternative ideas were discussed to raise funds and cuts to be made to staffing, rewards scheme dropped and trips affected. None of these would save the money needed.</p> <p>The issue of publishing a list of non-paying parents, as do other schools, was also discussed.</p> <p>The full Governing body</p>
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		meeting will take place on Monday 27 th March, feedback will be given as a decision needs to be made by the end of term.
ALL		Meeting was closed with a view for the Parent Forum to meet more often.