

Parent Forum Minutes – 1st October 2018

Present:

Kelly Stock

Hayley Howard

Jo King

Jenny Nicholls

Claire McCormick

Questions/e-mail from Kelly

Would parents be interested in purchasing a tie, hat and a coat with school logo?

Parent Forum members suggested putting it out there to parents and seeing what feedback comes back regarding this

- **ACTION – Miss Stock will let the uniform company know - done**

E-mail from parent - End of school day arrangements

Parent has expressed their concerns for the end of day collection along with a few others regarding the access into reception gates being congested and struggling to access with prams and smaller children being squashed and trampled.

Crowding has become an issue again due to elder children being let out first – Miss Stock explained there were more parents complaining about the times being staggered which is why we reverted back to one pick up time for everyone.

Parent forum members suggested 4, 5 & 6 parents wait further back on towards the entrance gates for pick up and hopefully this could ease congestion.

Parent Forum also suggested trialling a semi-circle for KS1 parents to stand behind to enable teachers to have more room to release children and also enable Reception access to their playground without being too crowded.

- **ACTION – Miss Stock will liaise with Caretaker and inform parents re trialling this in the Newsletter and parentmail – done**

School Panto

A few parents have complained regarding location of school panto this year and it being too expensive, children will be late home and they would be hungry etc. – Miss Stock has explained the safeguarding reasons for changing Panto and it is £2.50 difference from last year – in the letter parents have been asked to provide a snack.

Also explained that this is voluntary and not every child has to go if the parents feel they don't want them to or it is too expensive.

Holidays – 7 week term

Parents raised an issue that the extra week was too long – could extra be added into another half term?

Miss Stock stated that it is very unlikely to happen again – this was done this year due to school would have only been in for 2 days that first week so we thought it would have benefited parents for holidays etc.

- **ACTION – Miss Stock will consult parents in future to gather opinions which will then be taken to the Governing body for approval.**

Parentmail issues

Issues with Parentmail payment page – payment history from previous academic years are still on there. Also e-mails are not always reaching every parents – Year 1 do not seem to be getting them all.

- **ACTION – Miss Howard to check Parentmail payments page to investigate and liaise with Office re e-mails – done**

School Website

Parents have complained the school website is out of date – old information and pictures - – Miss Stock is aware of this and this is being updated

- **ACTION – Miss Stock/Miss Howard to liaise with Mrs Cutting to get the website updated asap – done**

Writing Journals/Spellings

Parents are a little concerned that the children are being given too much responsibility to explain things to parents and is causing confidence issues regarding the new writing journals and not knowing or being confused about what they have to do.

- **ACTION – Mr Keene to speak with teachers to send information out to parents explaining a little more in depth what is required**
- **Miss Stock to speak with Year 1 teachers re: spellings - done**

Horizon Photographs

Parents were only notified of Photographs the day before they were due to be taken therefore a lot of parents were rushing around trying to haircuts etc.

- **ACTION – Miss Howard to ask School Office to give extra time/notice - done**

School Bike Rack

Parents have asked for more space for children's bikes – Miss Stock advised we do have a bike rack and will get Caretaker to put this up.

Collecting children/Passwords

Year 1 parent raised a concern regarding children being released to another parent without asking for the password

- **ACTION – Miss Stock to follow up with Year 1 teachers and remind all staff that passwords must be asked for - done**

Attendance Awards

Few parents were asking if Summer term rewards were being issued for last term – Miss Stock and Miss Howard assured parent forum there will definitely be a reward for children for the Summer Term and it is being looked into – have had a few quotes for over £600 which is very expensive and Miss Stock explained budgets are so tight at the moment but we are working on this

Parent Forum members suggested children just being rewarded with certificates and only one reward at the end of the school year – Miss Stock would like to keep the reward system the same at the moment as attendance is doing really well and children value it

Afterschool Clubs

Claire McCormick raised concern that there was not a lot of variety of afterschool clubs for KS2 children this half term

- **ACTION - Miss Stock will look into this and make sure we offer a wider variety - done**

Other

There was some discussion about how the school is planning to look at how we support children's mental health in school especially following the tragic events at Ormiston Rivers Academy. Miss Stock reassured parents that this is something she feels strongly about and the school will do all it can to equip children with the resilience they need to know, to be kind to others and know when to ask for help.

Miss Stock thanked Parent forum for today and all issues will be looked into