

Parent Forum Minutes – 12th November 2019

Present:

Kelly Stock

Hayley Howard

Jo King

Jenny Nicholls

Claire McCormick

Kaylee Seymour

Parent Forum Vacancies

Miss Stock & Miss Howard agreed to send a parentmail regarding 2 vacancies for Parent Forum representatives in Reception and Year 1.

Update – Miss Howard has sent a parentmail to Reception and Year 1 parents asking for a representative

Parking

- A few parents have raised issues regarding parking with certain people and dangerous driving into the school
- Cars are mounting kerbs and parking silly when picking up and dropping off
- Parents are worried their children will be knocked down if changes are not made

Action

- The school to order child friendly cut out pavement signs to help prevent issues with parking outside the school - ***Update – We have ordered new parking signs to encourage parents to park considerately and safely. Please respect the signs and our staff who are simply doing their best to keep your children safe.***
- Message to be sent via school newsletter – ***Update – once signs have arrived this will be displayed in our December newsletter***
- Contact Local council to see if we could have parking tickets issued (like a version of neighbourhood watch) – ***Update – Miss Howard has contacted the Local Council and awaiting a response***
- School are able to report any abuse to Local Police

Forrest Schools

- Parents like the idea of having 'Forrest Schools' included in our curriculum as children really enjoy it.

Action

- Miss Stock to liaise with Mr Proudfoot about starting this up as an afterschool club

Update – Miss Stock has agreed for this to become part of an afterschool activity for the future

Growing communities

- Parent forum mentioned having the use of crisp packet recycle bins in the school dinner hall - advantage of the school being paid by the weight

Action

- School to contact PTA for details

Update – Mrs Cutting contacted our local collection point and awaiting a response as to whether we can get involved with them.

Winter coats

- Parents have raised concerns regarding children coming to school without a coat - Miss Stock advised the school do offer to pay for coats/uniform for children for parents who are struggling financially but unfortunately some parents are embarrassed to ask for help or understandably very proud.
- Miss Stock and Mrs Evans have been looking into a local scheme in the library/church where people are able to go and help themselves to an item of clothing – currently waiting for a response – this will be less conspicuous for parents

An update will be given in the Newsletter

Sex Education

- Miss Stock handed out a document (which can be found on the Dfe website)
- We currently do not teach Sex Education and Miss Stock would prefer to keep it that way – (Miss Stock asked Parent forum what they thought)
- One parent mentioned how important it is to be teaching this within the school and feels this would benefit children immensely as currently a lot of children have no knowledge of any sexual problems when they reach the age of 12 and above as they have had no information in primary school/home
- One parent mentioned Y5 girls are already speaking about it amongst themselves
- Miss Stock said Year 5/6 are currently taught about how their body changes and Year 6 teachers have question and answer time where boys and girls are split in classes and are able to speak to the teachers about questions or worries

- Parent forum agreed this should be spoken about within school as children will find anything out anyway if they want to so they feel it would be better coming from the right people rather than the internet or other children – they feel teaching sex education would be a positive step

Action

- Miss Stock to draft a letter to parents asking for their opinions on Year 6 Sex Education talk and we will go with the majority vote
- School to liaise with the school nurse and ask if there are any recognised programmes to follow

Update – Miss Howard has liaised with Mrs Evans to contact the school nurse - details to follow

Relationships and Health Education

- This document is regarding teaching children that there are different families – families who may have 2 mums 2 dads or 1 mum, 1 dad etc. and these families are perfectly normal – Miss Stock mentioned there being child friendly books
- Parent forum agreed at this age they feel the children do not need to know the details and that this would be putting a label on a child or their family and would make them feel different
- Miss Stock raised the concern of County Lines and teaching children and preparing them on the dangers of this as this and drug use such as gas canisters is becoming increasingly rife within Burnham

School Panto

- A few parents are disappointed the panto is at Towngate this year and much preferred Cliffs – Miss Stock agreed she preferred Cliffs but the majority of parents thought the long journey/late end was too much and the cost was too expensive

School Website

- Parents have complained that the school website is not being updated regularly and there are never any recent pictures of the children

Action

- Miss Stock will speak with staff members

Update – Mrs Cutting has agreed to keep an eye on the website and liaise with staff members to update their pictures regularly

Miss Stock thanked all Parent forum members.

Next Parent Forum meeting confirmed for ***Tuesday 10th December.***