

## Parent Forum Minutes – 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022

### **Present:**

Alex Russ

Hayley Howard

Megan Lester

Claire Morris

Roxie Parsons

Louise Wilson

Kym King

### **General welcome back and introduction**

Mr Russ welcomed all new parent forum members and explained how our Parent forum works.

### **Start of year**

Mr Russ discussed the start of year changes which were made for example curriculum days – afternoons there is one subject focused on for 2 weeks then at the end of those 2 weeks the children have a visit involving what they have been learning about e.g. Great fire of London and the Planetarium visit.

Feedback from this was parent forum never realised this happened and think it is a very good idea and it encourages the children to discuss what they achieved within the school day.

### **Social Media**

**Instagram** - Pictures of the school day and what the children get up to on the school Instagram page really help and is lovely for the parents to be able to see what the children are up to.

### **School Website**

Parent forum members raised awareness that the school website was not particularly user friendly especially when using a mobile phone and it is not easy to navigate.

### **Communication/emails**

Mr Russ asked Parent forum opinions on how they felt about school communication and the content which is sent out.

Parent forum were happy with what is sent out regarding what is happening within school especially as you are able to go back through the emails on the app to double check for anything you might have missed.

Sometimes emails can get sent too soon to the event so we will look into notifying parents as soon as we are able to.

### **Cost of living crisis – school trips/visits/payments**

Mr Russ asked for parent's opinions and how they feel with costing for trips etc. and explained it is not possible for the school to pay for all trips/visits and it just would not be feasible – is there too many trips/visits or not enough?

The School will always do what we can to help parents but we can only do so much.

PP funding for children – some parents are too proud and therefore do not access this even if they are entitled – Mr Russ advised please come forward and speak to a member of staff if you think you would be eligible as we are more than happy to help you.

### **PTA/Funding**

Some parents asked about arranging a medium night to raise some money to help the PTA – one member mentioned we do not get enough parents contributing and wanting to help.

### **Clubs**

Are parents happy with the clubs that are being offered and is there anything they would like to see added (where possible)

- Loads of clubs available and it is brilliant
- Football is a big hit all round for KS2
- EYFS – Running club has been amazing!

The parent forum said there is a big demand for a gymnastics club which they feel would be very popular!

Going into the New Year could we involve more children in different activities and run some non-sport clubs during lunchtime as not all children like sports clubs.

### **Homework/Google classroom**

Parents are not a big fan of GC and would prefer to be back to paper form. They feel most of the time no comments are being answered and they feel they are not able to just leave their children to do it alone online – also raised a point which most parents only have their phones and not a tablet or iPad so this makes it very difficult when completing homework. Not all parents have printers either.

- Why are the children completing the homework when it is not being marked – can the due dates be removed or go back to handing this into class teacher?
- Can we have a reward system for children who always go above and beyond – some children disengage if school does not recognise these.

## **E-safety Training**

Will there be internet safety with 2 Johns again?

Mr Russ explained the school hold E-safety assemblies in school but we would definitely look into having the 2 Johns in again.

Parent forum feel this is a fantastic idea and would benefit from this again.

No further questions – Mr Russ concluded the meeting and thanked all members for coming.

Next Parent forum meeting to be held in Spring 23 – date to follow.