

Autumn Term Parent Forum Minutes 7.11.24

Attendees: MS, LS, SR, RS, GR, VW

Apologies: AM, RS

Actions

Welcome and introductions	MS welcomed everyone and did introductions
Support for home learning – what would further support parents?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Parents discussed the home learning opportunities currently in place- MS talked about the ongoing challenge as a school as all parents have different opinions on homework – some want more, some want less, and school have tried to balance this- Parents felt that they would like more guidance on how to teach spellings, as although they had some phonics guidance, they would like further input on ways to practise the weekly spellings sent home- One of the parents raised having further input on what sounds their child had learned during the week and staff possibly sending out the upcoming sounds. MS discussed that this wouldn't always be helpful, as some parents may try and help their child be pre-teaching, which could cause a lot of problems if taught incorrectly. Parents acknowledged this.- MS to discuss with staff how sounds learnt are communicated to parents to support parents in recapping learning at home at home- Some parents commented that the notes in the reading diary saying which sounds/words their children struggled with was a helpful way of them knowing what to work on. There was discussion that this was not consistent in all classes.- MS to share this feedback with staff to improve consistency- Y1 parents shared that they were struggling to access online programmes- MS to speak to staff in Y1 to address this and ensure appropriate guidance is sent out
Parent insight sessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Discussion around parent insight sessions – this was extremely positive and parents enjoyed the opportunity to see how lessons run in the classroom- Parents shared that smaller groups of parents would be useful or that they would like more adults from their family to attend. MS talked about how this is difficult as the sessions are live lessons and it would not be possible to run multiple sessions due to the impact on learning time.- Parents shared how useful the Reception insight session was, which started with a parent learning session before going into the classroom. MS explained that this used to be the model but that we moved to a more class-based model based on parent feedback a few years ago.- MS to look at ways in which we can move to a hybrid model as with the Reception insight sessions.- Parents shared that going forwards, they would like more guidance through the insight sessions on supporting spellings at home
Fundraising – ideas going forwards	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Parents who have been part of the school prior to this term, shared their experiences of Christmas Fair and Summer Fair.- Discos are enjoyed and positive- MS asked parents for other ideas going forwards. Parents discussed ideas such as: Movie Nights, Colour Run for families, car boot sale.- MS to consider these ideas and look at the whole school diary for points to plan them.- MS discussed that with a small staff, school tries to avoid overload on staff by asking them to do additional hours at evenings and weekends.- MS discussed previous attempts to start a parent group to support fundraising for the school, and being unable to get the support for this.- MS to send out communications for this again to support the school with further fundraising events
Home School Communications – WWW/EBI	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- MS discussed the school newsletter communication and use of Arbor- All parents are happy with Arbor communication and feel it works well- One of the parents shared that opening the trips up at the start of the year was positive to allow for payments in increments

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Some parents shared that it would be beneficial to make it clear on the newsletter dates who the event is for eg whole school Eucharist – is this for children, are parents supposed to come etc. Parents were unsure if this was for info or an invite - MS to ensure this info is added to the newsletter going forwards - One parent raised messages on the door being passed on to teachers eg they6 shared that their child was under the weather, but when this was mentioned to the class teacher they didn't know about this message - MS discussed the process and how messages are shared, and the reasoning for staff not being available at the start of the day to ensure they are focused on settling children - MS to ensure all messages are shared and look at a system for message sharing if staff are not in class
AOB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No AOB – date of the next forum agreed - MS to send out a reminder to all