



Parents Forum Minutes Friday 11th October 2019 9-10am

11 parents present from across EY, KS1 and KS2

Welcome from Mrs Pollard (MP) and Miss Herrington (LH), Mrs Scott (ESc) taking minutes

MP explained that a Parent Forum is to discuss whole school issues and not individual children, these concerns are to be brought to the class teacher or for parent's evenings.

Feedback and actions from summer term Parents forum:

We are working with the children to change the name from Detention table to Reflection table. Staff are using the new name, but children are finding it harder to change. Work in progress.

Home Learning –inconsistency between individual classes, addressed with teachers.

No further parental comments

MP asked parents for feedback relating to our “Everything You Need to Know Evening”

Various parents said it was very difficult having two children in the school. They missed part of a particular year group and felt rude leaving one early.

- A question was asked why we no longer have the “Meet the Teacher” meetings any more.
- Could the Vision Evening be held later, in October and have the “Meet The Teacher” meetings at the start of the new year.
- Various parents would like the teacher meetings at 9am, you have a greater chance of catching people. Other parents said that evening meetings are better for them. As a school with 600 pupils, we will not be able to accommodate everyone's preference.
- MP explained that we would look into splitting these events for next year.

After school club

LH manager of our afterschool provision addressed the group to discuss what has been put in place since our last parent forum.

Continually reviewing the feedback from the children

- Looking at behavior management, although the club works alongside the school's Behaviour Policy and teaches the children to be respectful and polite, the staff want the children to have a relaxed and fun time.
- Children will be treated individually for their behavior and not as a whole group.
- Although they have a limited number of older children now in the club, a common room has been set up that the older can access independently. Children can bring in activities from home or use the chrome books.
- Older children can play a part in the club, helping make playdough or deserts and laying the table for dinner.
- Every day the children have access to the outdoors, it is their choice
- After dinner if the weather permits the club have the opportunity to go outside again. This will become difficult during the winter months when it is dark, but they will set up activities in the hall.
- Parents can ask for support with home learning and staff will assist children. This can be reading and help with the matrix.
- Meal times, good table manners are encouraged and respectfulness. A relaxation time has been introduced just before meal times, which the children like and often are sitting on the carpet massaging each other's shoulders and listening to relaxation music.

LH announced we have a new chef starting in a couple of weeks and he has introduced a lovely new menu, which looks delicious.

LH also said parent and child feedback is very welcome and will always look to make changes to enhance the enjoyment for the children in the after school club.

MP welcomed any further comments

One parent commented that she was having to feed her children again once she got home. Are the children not allowed second helpings?

LH said they always offer seconds if there is food left over. It was suggested to talk to the children to make them aware they can ask for more if they would like it.

Could a standard feedback form be created for parents to leave comments?

A communication book for parents with Nursery children was suggested.

Payment regarding children who attend after school club until 6pm and also attend a teacher lead club, could the club fee be refunded for these parents as paying for two clubs as it doesn't seem fair.

Relationships and Sex Education Policy (RSE)

MP explained about the new curriculum guidelines around this area and distributed copies of the draft policy to the parents.

The policy is very much linked to our PSHE policy and is embedded in activities such as PSHE lessons and e-Safety.

Understanding of relationships has changed;

From Sept 2020 parents can remove children from the sex education part of teaching but not the relationships aspects.

We are not promoting any specific life choices— just sensitive discussions around different relationships to avoid ignorance as the children move through to secondary school.

PSHE happens naturally through good quality teaching where children feel able to ask genuine questions. They are very mature in their discussions.

We welcome parental involvement to support this and recognise what is right for our children and context.

In 2020 it will become statutory, the main changes are in the curriculum content in Years 5 and 6. There will be a Year 6 parent workshop if you have further questions, and we are exploring updated resources as the video in particular is very dated.

Our children are a real credit in the way they approach these themes and see it as any other learning.

It is forever changing and the policy is reviewed regularly to reflect changes in society.

AOB

Bike and Scooter Shelters

There is not enough space for the bikes and scooters and bikes are getting damaged.

One parent suggested logs as bike holders, they have them at Hobbledown and they have redone their bike storage area and it looks really good.

We have a problem with space in the playground, but we will look into this.

Playground equipment is coming to the end of its life and a couple of pieces have been condemned by Surrey County Council. We are waiting for recommendations and costings as budgets are very tight at the moment in all schools.

Trips – Science museum was not suitable for Year 2, the children did not go to the fun parts.

Year 4 West Wittering trip, spent too long on the coach; the day needs to be made longer so the children have the full benefit at the beach. It was agreed to make trips an agenda item at the next forum in the spring term.

The meeting closed with a mention of International Evening and getting as many parents involved as possible. A flyer needs to be created so that new parents are aware of what happens at International Evening. It was suggested monetary or food contributions should be made by all parents who come along to the evening.

- **The next Parent Forum will be held in the Spring term on Wednesday 5th February 6-7pm 2020**