

Parents Forum Meeting

Thursday 19th November 2015, 2.15pm

Present: Miss Murphy (Chair in lieu of Mr Crumpler), Trudy Hinton, Ali Purse, Helen Covell, Tracey Phenix, Angela Burgess-Hughes, Karen Penny

Apologies: Mr Crumpler, Rebecca Thomlinson, Sarah Nixon, Amy Woodhouse

Issues arising from previous meeting

- *Library:* it was agreed that the updated library looks very inviting. The next step is to display collaborative artwork.
- *Team points:* there is now a display chart in the hall for this purpose.
- *Swimming:* Mr Crumpler and Mrs Hopkins have discussed the issue of Reception children's swimming lessons. Mrs Hopkins would like to keep this as it is; many children start swimming lessons as a result of swimming with the school.
- *Friendship bench:* this will be discussed with the School Council shortly.

Clubs

Some parents believe there are not many clubs, or much variety, for Key Stage 1, although it was agreed that some KS1 children are still very young to do too many extra-curricular activities. Miss Murphy will run the Energy Club in the Spring Term, however sadly there has been very little interest by parents volunteering to run other clubs. It was agreed that the ICT club has proved popular. Miss Murphy explained that there are a finite amount of clubs available due to limitations of staff and space and that at least one club is run every day. Mrs Stone's lunchtime art club has worked well. It was suggested that the School Council could run a club outside at lunchtime, possibly games.

It was agreed that the school should encourage parents to commit their children to clubs: if children are signed up they should attend, unless ill or unable to be there for a genuine reason.

It was agreed to consider issuing a questionnaire to children to find out what type of clubs they would like.

The school Clubline was discussed. A parent asked if this could be updated earlier, but it was explained that it is not possible as it is often weather-dependant.

Home Learning

Feedback from KS1 parents is that children receive about the right amount of home learning. However, a few small projects for younger children was suggested. More home learning was suggested for Year 1 children to prepare them for weekly homework in Year 2. It was thought that Year 1 will receive more home learning from Easter onwards.

Feedback from parents of KS2 children is that they believe the amount of homework to be spot on. A parent mentioned that a previous Ofsted report had picked up spelling; Miss Murphy explained how SPaG (spelling, punctuation and grammar) is embedded into the curriculum and is a priority for Wyke, as evidenced on the school development plan. She explained that Phonics in Years 1, 2 and 3 is now streamed, with 30 minutes for each session, 3 days a week. This initiative has had a big impact already, specifically in linking reading skills to spelling skills.

Suggestions

Some parents have stated that they would like Wake and Shake to start again. A parent also mentioned an initiative taking place in Scotland where the children walk a mile during the day, every day; a bell rings and they then walk for a few minutes at a time throughout the school day. Could this be adapted for Wyke? A sponsored walk was suggested. These ideas could be added to the club questionnaire along with other fundraising ideas.

A parent stated that Meet the Teacher worked well.

Topic for discussion at next meeting

Rewards and sanctions, behaviour.

Meeting closed at 3.05pm.

Date of next meeting: TBC

Governor link - Helen Covell
Y1 - Karen Penny
Y2 - Rebecca Thomlinson
Y3 - Tracey Phenix
Y4 - Amy Woodhouse
Y5 - Trudy Hinton
Y5 - Ali Purse
Y5 - Sarah Nixon
Y5 - Angela Burgess-Hughes

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