

Parents' Forum Meeting

Wednesday 24th May 2017, 2.45pm

Present: Miss Palmer, Angela Burgess-Hughes, Helen Covell, Trudy Hinton, Hannah Reed, Rebecca Thomlinson
Apologies: Jules Bond, Karen Penny, Tracey Phenix, Sam Stone, Amy Woodhouse

Open meeting – no agenda set

Washable Pens

Parents have asked if children could use washable whiteboard pens to prevent stained clothing. Miss Palmer advised that the school will shortly be placing a large stationery order for the next academic year; washable whiteboard pens will be investigated.

Charity Donation for Shoes

All agreed, in principle, to take part in an end of term shoe donation. Children leave their old shoes on their desks at the end of term; they are collected by a charity who provide shoes for children all over the world who have none. Miss Palmer agreed this was a good initiative and has a website link to investigate the details.

Whistle Time Variation

A parent noted that there is sometimes a variation in the time the whistle is blown before school. Miss Palmer will talk to duty staff to ensure the whistle is consistently blown at 8.50am for the children to be in their seats ready to start school at 8.55am.

Reception Gate

A parent noted that the Wren Class gate is closed too soon in the mornings. Miss Palmer advised that all gates will remain open until 9am.

Buddy Bench

Children have said that when they play on the field they are unable to use the Buddy Bench as it is too isolated. Miss Palmer will remind children in assembly that there is also a bench by the tree on the field for this purpose.

Clubs

As discussed in detail previously, the main issue is space. Miss Palmer has investigated external providers but has not had success as yet. There will be no Drama Club this year as Mr Crumpler ran this. Stagecoach could be a possibility, however sessions are expensive. Pilates may be a possibility in the future. Miss Palmer is happy to discuss details if a group of parents wish to run a club.

School Meals

A parent asked if Wyke could cook its own lunches, as Milton Primary School do. Miss Hinton advised that this had been investigated previously and unfortunately there is insufficient kitchen space available to do this. If grants or funds do become available, a kitchen extension will be considered for this purpose. Over half of pupils have school meals regularly and taster sessions are provided to encourage families to sample the food on offer. A cold menu was introduced but take up was very low so it was not deemed viable.

Miss Palmer asked those present to encourage parents to apply for Free School Meals. If parents are eligible, the school receives funding for their child/ren and parents are entitled to half price trips and free swimming lessons. This information will be disseminated in the September's 'Welcome Back to School' parent pack. All that is required is a parent's National Insurance no., date of birth and name; the school can then investigate entitlement.

SATs

A parent enquired Miss Palmer's opinion on the recent SATs. She believes that they had gone very well generally; the children were calm and just 'got on with it'. Some 'tricky bits' were thrown in, as always, but she hopes they have done well. A parent asked if the children had been taught everything they needed to know. Miss Palmer confirmed that they had.

Table Top Sale

The Friends Committee Table Top Sale went well, making well over £200. However, the event will not take place regularly as people lose interest. Miss Hinton advised that parents may wish to be on the helpers' list for events rather than a member of the committee itself. A letter is sent to new parents every September introducing them to the Friends Association.

Topics for discussion at next meeting

None identified.

Meeting ended 3.15pm.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 4th July, 2.45pm

Parents' Forum Contacts:

Governor link	Helen Covell
Wren Class	Karen Penny
Robin Class	Hannah Reed
Owl Class	Sam Stone
Kingfisher Class	Rebecca Thomlinson
Woodpecker Class	Tracey Phenix
	Jules Bond
Falcon Class	Amy Woodhouse
Heron Class	Angela Burgess-Hughes
	Trudy Hinton