

Minutes for the Parents Forum meeting: Monday 16th July 2018

In attendance:

Elizabeth Ingham (EA)
Jules Bond (JB)
Adrian Tatum (AT)

1) It was noted the low attendance for the parents forum meeting. EI said it was difficult to get parents to commit but ideally she would like parents to chair and run the forum themselves. AT mentioned that some parents had said they would find it a lot more convenient to meet in the evenings after work, maybe in a local pub where they could dedicate more time. AT (who was standing in for Hannah Reed) said he was only able to make this meeting by chance as he happened to be working from home but ordinarily it would prove difficult with work commitments but he would consider attending on a more regular basis if it was moved to an evening. JB agreed that this was a good idea. This idea could also be applied to the Friends of Wyke meetings also?

2) AT mentioned Ofsted and asked what the plan was moving forward to build on the schools strengths and deal with the areas for improvement. He suggested that a quarterly update to parents on progress would be a good idea to enable them to be more informed. This would also help highlight to parents the good work of the headteacher and her staff. EI thought this was a good idea.

3) JB said she and other parents were happy with Parentmail system since it has been implemented but questioned why there were so many mails from third party organisations? AT said it was a lot more convenient to read parent information on email and obviously this also meant that it was easier to search for any information that may have been lost or forgotten.

4) AT congratulated the school on the different selection of after school clubs and activities-which the children enjoyed. He also said he thought sports day was well organised and the addition of being able to go into class and view your child's work was also good. JB agreed. AT asked which charities the school was going to support next school year?

5) AT said that some parents have been asking if the donation of old school shoes to charity was happening again?

6) Finally, AT suggested an idea for next summer to help make some money for the school. A work colleague had used with <https://www.happycircus.co.uk> at his son and daughter's school-a circus specialising in working with schools. AT suggested this might be worth investigating further. Tickets could be sold to parents but also to the local community. The ideal time for this would be summer to avoid the clash with the circus that comes to Gillingham every year in April time.

The meeting ended.