

Agenda for Parent forum meeting 19th May 2023

Apologies

Matters arising from the last meeting Please refer to the minutes attached.

General

1. General scruffiness in their uniform – are the children asked to tuck shirts in etc. particularly when the children are on school trips, it shows a poor representation of the school. (see below response)
2. STEM based after school clubs as focus is very sport heavy (although DT club seems to have had a reprieve), some would be super keen on a coding club.
3. School meals, keep getting negative feedback.
4. Could there be more inter house competitions? Encourages pride, belonging across all year groups. (see below response)
5. PTFA what are they fund raising for? Or what does the school need to help students and how can we help?
6. Longer hours for the wrap around care, starting earlier and finishing later.
7. Daily mile reinstated (See below response)
8. Can more options be provided for the morning snack? Yoghurts, cereal bars not just fruit? (See below response)
9. Has an alternative been planned for the usual London/ museum trip in 2024? (See below response)
10. Unless requested, we don't get to see the children's work at all, not even at parents evening which means its hard for us as parents to see the children's progress and how we can help at home.
11. Screen time in school...
12. Litter in the playground, especially during fairs, ice cream days. Can the children do something in school to help reduce or encourage better habits? (See below response)
13. New starters in September who currently have children in school, could the timings be altered to finish slightly later or can the siblings leave at 3.00 to save hanging around for 15 minutes? (See below response)
14. Could we have the proposed dates for sports day and the school play?

Road and school safety

1. The small white gates (although are something) aren't and don't slow the traffic sufficiently enough to be safe, passed school. The road closures have sent a lot of traffic passed the school who are unused to the 20mph and the speeds seen recently are quite scary. Can the council not offer anything else to ensure the children's safety?
2. Breakfast Club access – there are concerns that the easy access off the road via the blue door for breakfast club could allow an uninvited visitor into the school quite easily. Can access be more secure?

3. The school gate. Mr DG said he was getting quotes on getting a keypad entry system on the gate (similar to Hartpury School) what has happened with this?
4. Is there a clear process and communication to pupils, on how and when they should raise concerns during playtimes? It seems the consensus amongst the children is that they don't say anything/tell when an incident has occurred as they think nothing will be done about it. (See below response)

School Website and communications

1. The school website – poor communication and very out of date.
2. Could emails contain the text for the messages rather than the letters being an attachment?
3. A request for us to a) be informed when the class teacher is off and b) reassurance that teaching is then not left to the TA for more than a few days. (See below response)

Annual Report Format for Parents

SH will bring an example to discuss.

Parents Workshops

SH to discuss Autumn Term proposed workshops - Thinking ahead for the Autumn term e.g. possibly Phonics, KS1 SATs, Maths strategies/calculations, KS2 SATs or other ways to support your child at home with their learning and to share the age related expectations linked to the curriculum

AOB

16.5.23 Responses provided by SH to save time during the meeting and to help answer queries in advance

1. **Uniform-** reminders have been sent out following the last meeting via the newsletter and we will continue to remind the children about tucking their shirts in etc. to look smart, especially when representing the school. This helps us all!

4. **Inter house competitions** - these will be considered within future curriculum opportunities where appropriate. The house points continue to be collected and celebrated during Friday's assembly each week.

7. **Daily Mile-** it will be suggested that children can participate in the daily mile through lunchtimes. The classes do lead their own exercises/movement routines regularly in addition to P.E. so sometimes there is a limit to fit everything extra into the school day on a constant basis.

8. **Fruit** is provided for all Key Stage 1 children as part of a government initiative and in line with this, children in Key Stage 2 are also able to bring their own fruit in from home as a morning snack. This option also saves on litter. Yoghurts would be difficult for playtimes with lids and spoons during the time they are outside for. These arrangements have also been working well for the majority of children.

9. **London Trip 2024-** I understand there was not enough interest in this trip and tickets to an alternative show were not available to make it viable which was the reason for cancelling it. The trip is not actually part of the curriculum, but purely an enrichment experience and it is based on the goodwill of staff members in addition to the wealth of other trips, residential and opportunities the school provides. Staff would really appreciate a 'Thank You' for the extra things they do and to hear that very few parents shared a 'thanks' for the 5 day residential trip where staff had given their own time to stay with away with the children and sacrificed time with their own family to accommodate this experience was quite shocking to hear.

12. **Litter in the playground-** monitors are asked to help keep our outdoor areas tidy and I would expect that the fairs and ice-cream days are held on occasions than a regular basis. If these are extra events are outside of school, then parents should really be supervising their children to dispose of litter carefully to reinforce a sign of respect for our school and wider environment. This is something which will be encouraged in school to support future Eco work.

13. **New starters finish time of 3pm** - I understand these arrangements are across only 4 afternoons and most probably with the purpose of staggering the exit time to allow a quieter collection for new Reception children from the Class 1 door and then allowing time for other Siblings to be collected via the main route. If this is an issue for anyone, then I'm sure we can accommodate the older siblings leave at 3pm on these four afternoons if necessary.

Road and Safety

1. **Traffic and the Council**- I understand this had previously been looked into and advice sought. School hold a 'near miss' book for parents to report any incidents as recommended by the Council. If parents have concerns, they can also raise these directly with the Highways department. Schools are often unfortunately very limited as to what else they can do regarding managing the speed of traffic on roads and around parking issues too.

2. **Breakfast Club door access**- The main door into school via the office is used for Breakfast Club access and NOT the blue door at the front of the building for children's safety and to address previous parent concerns. Children are let into the building through the locked entrance door by a member of staff.

3. **The school gate**- I understand quotes were previously sourced by the school which came in at a cost of over £15,000 which we do not have sufficient funds for. I would be happy to seek further advice when we next have a visit/meeting with the property services team to see if any alternative options can be suggested instead.

4. **Playtimes** - there were only two parents who mentioned playtimes via the survey, but I will raise this with the Junior Governors when we next meet to discuss and reassure further.

School Website and Communications

1.**School Website**- yes, very aware of this! It has been identified and I've even arranged a website audit to help us improve the website. This is taking place this week, then a programme of work will begin. Preparations have already started behind the scenes to improve the website with progress expected to be seen during this term.

2. **Emails** - this has been considered, but due to the different formatting elements, some parents may only be able to view parts of the information, for example it would be difficult to send photos as included in the newsletter this way rather than as an attachment in PDF. Only 2 parents commented on this during the parent surveys and most found the way information is sent by email to be helpful as a way of receiving information from the school.

3. **Request to be informed of longer-term teacher absence and cover**- yes, absolutely, that would be fine.