

Parent Forum Minutes- 2nd October 2018

1. Apologies: Kate Fox, Helen Smith
2. Points arising from last meeting
 - **Online payment system** – *Waiting to see if any payment system will be compatible with existing computer systems; hopefully will be online before half-term.*
 - **French-** *School is now looking to introduce German as a foreign language this year as there is more funding/support available for teaching German than French.*
 - **Sanitary bin for older girls** – *This has been introduced and works well for pupils.*
 - **Noticeboard** – *a new board has been ordered and will arrive soon.*
 - **After school clubs** – *Options are currently limited due to our geographical location so far from Worcester and the usual service providers. Students from Hartpury are only available if they can drive. Mr Dixon-Gough is looking into the possibility of providers coming from Gloucester. A meeting is due to take place with the Upton Primary Head teacher to discuss their after school options/providers. Mr Dixon-Gough is also looking into the possibility of developing an all weather running track on the school/parish field, so increasing sporting activities.*

3. Agenda Points

- **Emailing forms** – *Can we email copies of slips/forms instead of having sheets of paper in school bags? The new school website goes live next Monday and the aim is to include everything on the website and to go 'paperless' in the long term. Eventually everything will be sent out by email to parent email addresses.*
- **Diary Dates** – *Can we include more details for new parents? As much information as possible will be put in the school newsletter, however please ask any member of staff about anything you are unsure of as the staff are more than happy to help.*
- **Christmas Parties and food** – *could they add a note i.e cancel school lunch? The school will cancel all lunch orders in the event of a whole school trip or event, such as the Pantomime trip and the Christmas party day.*
- **Advance notice of trips** – *can we have as much notice as possible to avoid refunds on school lunches and breakfast clubs? The school will give as much notice as possible, but on occasion the information regarding events/fixtures is not received until the last minute from external sources. As soon as information is received it will be passed on.*
- **PTFA funds** – *how are they spent, input into what the money is being raised for? The PTFA sent out a detailed letter at the end of the Summer term giving details of funds raised and how money had been spent. The PTFA will be asked to re-issue that letter and to ask more people to become involved in the PTFA and put forward any ideas they have for fundraising and how funds may be spent. **Action: Mr Dixon-Gough to discuss with PTFA.***
- **Pony club showjumping** – *details in the newsletter please? The brilliant results and fantastic pictures were printed in last week's newsletter.*
- **School bus** – *Pick up times vary a lot, what time should the bus arrive at school? The Astons coach usually arrives on time at 8.45am. If anyone has any queries please contact Mr Dixon-Gough or call Astons coaches direct.*

- **Inconsiderate parking** – people leaving massive gaps. Please can everyone be reminded about road safety, parking etc. *A reminder about considerate parking will be put in the school newsletter and the Parking Guidelines will be re-issued. Action: Mr Dixon-Gough.*
- **Residential trip** – would have liked more information before sending in deposits/committing to go, and details of how it works generally. *Please raise any queries about the residential trip with Mrs Carolan. The aim is to have a presentation evening after this academic year's residential trip to enable parents to see what the children do whilst away and to provide information about what is required to prepare for future residential trips when children move into Class 4.*
- **Water bottles** – Are drinking bottles washed and dried at school during the week? *Water bottles are sent home every Friday for washing. If parents wish for their child's water bottle to be washed every day please can they ask their child to do so in the classroom, where a sink is available.*
- **Staffing** – can we have an update? Are the TA changes permanent? *Mrs Owen left during the summer holidays. TA levels in class are being monitored. Any changes of staff in future will be put on the new website.*
- **Newsletter** – positive feedback for Mr Dixon-Gough's paragraph in the newsletters. *Comments gratefully received by Mr Dixon-Gough.*
- **Stay and Play** – really positive move, especially with older siblings doing other clubs. *Noted.*
- **Homework** – various comments received about homework. *A questionnaire will come out shortly asking parents for anonymous feedback about current homework levels with a view to decide how to move forward with a homework timetable.*
- **Parent Forum Reception representative** – Mrs Kelsey is in the process of approaching some parents to ask if they wish to join as Reception representative.

Date of next meeting: 8am, Tuesday 13th November 2018.