



parents forum

Minutes: 30th November 2020

Members present:

Laura Atkins (Chair)	Vicki Houldcroft	Rachel Lamont
Jasmine Howe	Nici Turnbull	Sarah Thompson
Lucy Goringe	Julie Easton (Teacher rep)	Anna Allen
Apologies: Gemma Halsey		

Agenda Item:	Response from school:
Follow Up on Previous Agenda Items	
<p>Uniform supplier - brought up at previous meeting, school agreed to do survey to get feedback - follow up. Needs to be short and find out if people generally are having issues</p>	<p>We are sorry that we have not managed to do this yet. We will make it a priority to complete soon.</p>
<p>8.30 teacher/private discussion at gate - due to be discussed at SLT/staff meetings respectively - follow up.</p>	<p>We have discussed this at a staff meeting and if a member of staff needs to speak with a parent, then they will invite them to wait until everyone has gone and speak with them privately in the playground. Please note though, the member of staff will need to maintain distance of more than one metre throughout the conversation.</p>
<p>School events - Osmington Bay - any update or is it still ongoing?</p>	<p>To date, the government are not allowing overnight trips. If Osmington bay does get cancelled then all parents will receive a refund. We are also exploring an alternative involving day visits as these are still allowed.</p>
<p>Hot dinners - query regarding delay (now starting on 30 Nov) and lack of options on allergy menus</p>	<p>We have been working with Caterlink and share your frustrations in sorting this out. Hot meals have now started being delivered to school. Caterlink are limited in the menu they can offer as their nutritionist is on furlough and therefore cannot work. Any new menus cannot be approved without their input and this has impacted the variety of meals available across Wokingham Borough.</p>
<p>Rewards/Awards - Oak class would like to respond to school response in previous minutes.</p>	<p>Thank you for your response.</p>

<p>Parents felt that in Covid times the children aren't able to do the jobs they would usually do eg. Assemblies and gain points that way. They also feel that in these times they should be able to earn points more freely.</p>	<p>To add to the comments, Year 6 have been involved in leading the recorded assemblies throughout this term, starting and completing them through video and this will continue throughout the term. They have just been interviewed for jobs and responsibilities. Once allocated, they will be carrying out these responsibilities through video and other forms of communication that don't involve face to face contact with other bubbles.</p>
<p>New Agenda Items</p>	
<p>Christmas - anything else other than planned activities (as detailed in newsletter) We know that KS1 are doing a nativity, Crazy Christmas day, Christmas tree they can make decorations for. Christmas carol service is happening. Christmas dinner and jumper day. Christmas cards - what can the children do? If the children aren't allowed to do it, can parents exchange cards outside the gates instead?</p> <p>Do Hazel and Chestnut children need to provide costumes for their play? Parents will need some notice.</p>	<p>These are all happening as advertised. School council also raised the issue of Christmas cards and hopefully by the time you receive these minutes you will be aware that there will be a post box for Christmas cards within each class bubble. Unfortunately, we won't be able to deliver Christmas cards across bubbles.</p> <p>Hazel and Chestnut parents do not need to provide costumes and should have received an email about this prior to receiving these minutes.</p>
<p>Doodle accounts - do/can all years have access? Can Y3 and Y4 have access to Doodle accounts?</p>	<p>Doodle Access will remain in Y5&6 and Y2 as it prepares them for end of year assessments and the programme will be fresh and exciting to them when they get into these year groups. We would like Year 3 and 4 to concentrate on times tables and therefore they have access to times tables rock stars as their electronic maths programme. (CHECK Y2 ACCESS to DOODLE)</p>
<p>Clubs - will these be starting up again? (after school and during school) Other schools are doing clubs within their bubbles. Shinfield are doing sports clubs. Some of the clubs are run by teachers in the school. Discussion was had around this. They can mix with other children in football clubs why cant they do this in school. Could the school run extra Maths and English type clubs.</p>	<p>Government restrictions mean that we are not able to run any after school clubs that mix children from different bubbles, other than for child care (Get Active). Unfortunately clubs for just one class are not viable and there is no expectation for staff to run clubs due to wellbeing considerations.</p>

<p>Extra groups/learning support – for those who managed OK in lockdown but are not where they could be</p> <p>The kids that didn't do very well are getting extra but those who worked quite hard and did quite well aren't getting any extra even though they are still a bit behind and this doesn't seem very fair.</p>	<p>There are catch-up sessions timetabled into every classes normal week and those children who were well supported at home but are still a little behind will find that all their catch up needs are met there. The tutoring sessions are a finite resource and have been carefully considered. Please be reassured that children's needs are being met whichever group they fall into.</p>
<p>Feedback</p>	
<p>Parents Evening –</p> <p>Generally positive feedback. Good for keeping to time. Easy to book. One class would like it to continue even when face to face are allowed. It was a shame not to see their work – Could we have a work celebration evening each term and parents come in and see it that way.</p> <p>For babysitting and getting time off work it was so much more convenient.</p> <p>It was quite rushed – we probably need 2 or 3 more minutes each. Could we have 15 minutes appointments?</p> <p>Generally it worked well apart from one or two people with individual issues with technology. If people want longer, could they make a separate appointment afterwards.</p> <p>Maybe do one face to face and one zoom across the year.</p>	<p>Thank you for all this feedback. It is really useful for our forward planning for parents evenings.</p> <p>We too would have liked you to be able to see the children's work will work out how that can be managed safely.</p>
<p>School photographs – Mixed feedback from the photographs – reasonably positive apart from the cost.</p> <p>The change of background was a surprise to some, wasn't an issue to others and was better for others. (particularly those with fair haired children.)</p> <p>Online ordering – A number of parents seem to have missed the online ordering email. It was a very quick turn around. The email didn't make the ordering process clear.</p> <p>Cost – It was quite expensive if you have siblings. The cost of the USB stick was quite expensive. Those with more than 2 children had to buy it in two ways. You need to be able to buy all the photos you needed in one place. As one family you need to be able to buy it in one go not separately.</p>	<p>Thank you for your feedback on this. We will let the photographic company know your comments on the pricing and delivery of the photos as well as your other comments.</p> <p>The school expectation is that children wear jumpers for school photographs. In normal circumstances we would have a spare jumper available for those who weren't wearing one but this was not possible on this occasion due to Covid restrictions.</p>

It also seems strange that the download was more expensive than the USB stick. It also seemed unfair that the photos were cheaper through the black Friday deal after the deadline. Sometimes it's made quite difficult to get the photos.

Many Y6 parents didn't buy the photos as they didn't like the pose/ grins. Parents would like a choice of two photos so that they can choose a good picture.

Was there any difference in the set up this year due to Covid that might have affected the photographs?

Some sibling photos were different - one with jumper and one without - could there be consistency from one class to the next in this. Some parents said that their children looked a bit scruffy and could that be checked when they had their photo taken.

Positive Feedback:

Some of parents were disappointed in how negative the parent forum minutes seemed to be and wanted to share that they are really pleased with all the school is doing, thank you!

Y2 parents really pleased that the KS1 Nativity is going ahead. Thank you.

Thank you for this feedback.

AOB:

School Council meetings - could more than an hour's notice be given please.

Is it possible to order DVDs of past productions?

We are sorry that people weren't aware of the date of the School Council meeting. Miss Easton will make sure that all the dates of school council meetings are displayed on the School Council page in future to make sure that parents are aware of when they are. If it is useful, she will continue to send a reminder of the meeting link on the day.

There is concern that advertising this would significantly increase the workload in the office, especially during the pandemic when it has already increased, however, depending on numbers, individual requests would be considered.

Date for next meeting: Monday 25th January 1.30pm