

Parent Forum - minutes 9th December 2016

Present: Mr Tomson, Mrs Price, Mrs Acheson (Y3), Mrs Goodson (F) Mrs Trew (Y2)

Apologies: Mrs Kirkwood, Mrs Bockmuehl

Previous minutes updates and feedback:

Trialling parents evening online booking from Jan. Part of doing parents evening at beginning of term to plan for the future rather than looking back at the end of term. System will not let people book 2 slots within 20mins of each other but not able to stop this happening cross site - so beware!

Inviting people in went well - next term we are hoping to do open sessions (in the morning) so people can watch a lesson in progress.

Sports award feedback: We got runner up across whole of Bucks and Milton Keynes. Well done everyone.

No change to breakfast club school is now focusing on afterschool club which is going ahead with an aim of starting in the Spring term.

Sweets and puddings update - staff have been told to only give one pudding and they are sticking to this. There is also more fruit in the cycle than there used to be. Puddings are pre-portioned and they are only allowed one. It is possible that kids could be eating other peoples.

Learning log: New section on website to help with options for learning logs and starting points.

After school club- despite results of survey monkey the governors have decided to run at a loss for a limited amount of time to see if interest can be built. At the moment there are plans for both sites although details have not been completely worked out.

Agenda Items:

1. Great nativities - well done school team.
2. Paperless working really well - thank you!
3. Parent involvement event - please could we have more warning.
4. Roald Dahl event - difficult to pick up from infant site as it finishes at 3.25pm. We discussed the option of finishing events like this earlier so pick up is not compromised. School stated it is obviously OK to leave early from the event to pick up smaller children. School stressed there is still an expectation for infant site children to be collected on time. Mr Tomson will discuss finishing times with Dinton site team for future events. With regard to notice the school is working to give more notice but sometimes ideas crop up in the classroom and the school has a policy of doing these exciting things at short notice rather than not at all when there is momentum in the classroom for something like this.
5. Greek day was difficult as it's such a busy time of year. In discussion it was highlighted that this was the end of term finale and we are moving towards having a finale at the end of each term so it is difficult to say there won't be one at

Christmas time. Having said this the onus was meant to be on the child to do a costume as homework and not for the parent to spend a lot of time on it.

6. Sweets coming home from school: Parents are concerned about the amount of sugar coming from school via birthdays and events such as Christmas fayre. We discussed the options of having non-sugar prizes at events and this will be suggested to those running stalls. We also discussed other options for what parents could send round at birthdays and it was suggested that we stop handing out food items at birthdays and Christmas. School has decided that they will no longer facilitate the handing out of these items as the amount of parents raising this for discussion is increasing every parent forum.

7. Communications: very few responses to survey monkey questionnaires. (39 responses to after school club questionnaire and less responses to the school ball the school desperately needs more responses). The school are trying hard to improve their communications and would be really grateful if parents could help by filling in these questionnaires as they go out.

8. Financial issues: School is finding money is tight. The school is considering charging for after school clubs and in particular ones run by outside providers. It has been suggested that we have a friends 4 CAD person on the parent forum or that we merge parent forum with friends 4 CADS to encourage more parent involvement. There was also a suggestion of having each class responsible for a fundraising event to divide labour better across the years. Also suggested was having 2 parents per year group at parent forum: one for the year and one for Friends 4 cads. All these ideas will be discussed with the friends 4 CADS people.

9. Communications: School is making an effort to send things specific to year groups and newsletters not as attachments. Parents at parent forum said this had been well received.

Next meeting Friday 3rd February 9.10am on the junior site.

Merry Christmas everyone!