

## Parent Forum Minutes 15th October 2015 - Infant Site

Present:           Mrs Price                               Mrs Mole/Mrs                       Mrs Siddall (5),  
                      Mrs                               Ghouse (F)                         Mrs Timman (6)  
                      Stevenson                           Mrs Trew (1),                     Mr Mole (Parent  
  Mrs Goodson                     Governor)  
  (2),  
  Mrs Clayton (3)

Apologies:       Mr Tomson;

### Actions from Previous Minutes(03/06/15)

- **Assessment** – Mrs Price explained that under the Government’s new assessment criteria were still being finalised and some areas were still unclear. Parent consultations will use the new terminology “Emerging, Expected and Exceeding” and indications of what each child needs to work on will be included in the assessments. Behind the scenes teachers are still using end of years expectations, not assessments to assess them but the government no longer allow the levels to be given out. The school is working with other schools in the county to come up with a fair system to allow comparisons to be made between schools. Assessment tests take place every term to get data and to help the children get used to tests. There will be SATs at the end of Year 2 and Year 6 and both teachers for these year groups have been sent on assessment training courses.
- **Handwriting Lines** – Junior Spelling templates have been updated to include handwriting lines. The infant one is to be completed. Mrs Stevenson reminded parents that with the cursive handwriting all letters start on the base line. **Action: Mrs Price to look into Infant handwriting lines on spellings.**
- **Workshops & Apps** – This parent forum was held the day after a parent workshop on how to help your children in school. The format for the workshop was an open discussion forum and although there will be a circulation of the presentation, this will not reflect the wider discussion by those who attended. **Action: Mr Tomson will put Powerpoint presentation on website.**
- **Maths Workshop** – Parents would welcome a workshop on methods for maths, unfortunately the new curriculum methods have not been fully finalised/communicated. There will be a workshop once these details have been confirmed and the methods are being taught within school.
- **Parent Feedback - ACTION** Parents, please take the time to give Ofsted your feedback via [www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk). Our entries are years out of date so the school would appreciate it if parents could take some time to fill out the online questionnaire. *This was carried forward from the last minutes.* **Action: Parent Forum reps to reiterate the importance of completing this as there is still not enough data to pull a report from at the moment.**
- **Infant Site Water Fountain** - Mrs Price explained that this was still on the plan for the building works but water pipework for the fountain is quite a distance from where the fountain is to be sited.

## Matters Arising

- **Tutoring** - Mrs Price advised that parents of children who use external tutors need to be clear on the numeracy methods being used within school as there have been several instances where children have been confused by differing methods.
- **National Curriculum Levels** - the end of year expectations for Year 1 - Year 6 are to be published by school. **Action: Mrs Price/Mr Tomson to consider publishing the National Curriculum links.**
- **Learning Log / Homework Discussions:**
  - o parents had asked for feedback to include within Learning Logs so that children could work on what areas they could think about or improve for next time
  - o parents had asked for guidance on length of time to be spent on spellings, homework, etc. Mrs Price said that as each child differed a rough guide would be 30 minutes, if the child was happily engaged in exploring a topic this should not be discouraged with the flip side of this being children who were distressed and unhappy in completing homework should not be made to spend hours being forced to do it. School has systems in place to work with children who find it difficult to undertake and complete their homework. Parents should seek advice from their child's teacher if this is a persistent problem. In all cases the children should be encouraged to do their own work!
  - o a suggestion about setting up an after school homework club is to be considered. **Action: Mrs Price & Mr Tomson to review**
- **Selection for Teams** - Mrs Price confirmed that pupil selection for teams and events is completely random but will look at keeping a record of the children selected to ensure that as many children are given the opportunity as possible. Communication on team selections, changes of after school clubs, etc. to be done by e-mail rather than letters which may be lost. **Action: Mrs Price to review. ( I have spoken to Mr Tomson and Mrs Chaplin- individual emails are difficult. It will be easier to send a general parent mail to classes, which we already do.)**
- **After School Clubs** - discussion around giving parents more notice. **Action: Mrs Price to bring forward the circulation of club choices**
- **Communication of Christmas Performances** - parents asked for a much notice as possible for the Christmas performances and Mrs Chaplin sent them out in Dates for your Diary later that week.
- **School Uniform Sales** - recent sales have been held on week days so a request was made to have a weekend sale too. **Action: Mrs Price to communicate to team.**
- **Website** - some areas of the website were still relevant to the previous academic year. It was suggested that current timetables and topics should be uploaded into the relevant year sections. **Action: Mrs Price to review.**

**NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER – JUNIOR SITE**