

## **Parent Forum 16.11-17**

**1. Present:** Mrs. Price, Mrs. Praise (Foundation), Mrs. Dymott (Yr 1), Mrs. Trew (Yr 3), Mrs. Acheson (Yr 4 and representing Yr 2 for Mrs. Ghouse), Mrs. Mole (Representing Yr 5 for Mrs. Shenton), Mrs. Bockmuel (Representing Yr 6 for Mrs. Kirkwood and Church)

**2. Minutes of last meeting:** Mrs. Price summarised the minutes of the last meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2017 and there were no matters arising for further discussion.

### **3. Items which parents wish to discuss:**

**a) School lunches, Quality of food (JS - Yr 6)** – The issue of the possible reduced quality of hot school lunches was raised by parents in Yr 6. The current provider (Haddenham St. Mary's) contract is up for renewal in January so Mrs. Price has been checking other schools providers. She meets with the Head of Haddenham St. Mary's to discuss the arrangement every year. Reduced portions on Junior site, lack of provision of gluten free meals on Infant site and the proportion of carbohydrate to other food groups have been raised as concerns. Some other providers always provide a salad which has proved popular when children have been given the option.

Mrs. Mole suggested spot check with parents coming in to try lunch? Mrs. Price thought that coming to the Infant site was the best plan as always wastage as the Infants do not pay for meals. The school does not monitor what or how much every child eats for hot lunch, but the dinner ladies or staff on duty loosely check and do tell parents if they haven't eaten particularly for Foundation children. Mrs. Trew queried if this was the same for packed lunch as often virtually nothing has been eaten in some children's bags as they want to go out to play quickly. Mrs. Price to check more closely on those children.

**b) Lunchtime routines (JS – Yr 4, Yr 5)** on one occasion some children did not get lunch due to clubs was brought up following the timing of one particular club on one day, where the dinner ladies were confused resulting in there not being sufficient hot meals left for the children. Arrangements have been put in place so that Dance and Ukulele clubs starting at 1pm go into lunch first. The split lunch arrangement was initiated as 100+ for lunch together created too much noise. By splitting the times the children have a better lunchtime and are not always with same class. Complaints that they only have 10 minutes before class are incorrect – they have at least 20 minutes to eat so no rush and time to digest before lessons. Mrs. Mole thought it a shame that there was now no opportunity for seconds. Mrs. Price responded that there shouldn't have been any seconds on the Junior site as only those meals that were ordered were delivered. Mrs. Bockmuel suggested that the provider should not call Mondays 'World food day' since it was always Italian or vary the dishes.

**c) Lost property (JS – Yr6)** Some named clothing had gone missing in Yr 6. All lost property goes into lost property box. If lost clothing is named and can't be found here then email Mrs. Price who will do spot check of what children wearing. Many parents are however not naming clothing. The quality of jumpers available at Tescos was raised. The reminder that parents have a choice of Tesco or Printlab with different price and quality options to go out on email. F4CADS organising buying bulk load of surplus uniform from Printlab to sell at reduced prices.

**d) Playtime at Juniors (Yr3)** Concern raised by one parent that there is a lack of anything to play with in playground at Junior site now that the field is not used in winter. There is a box of outside play toys available and football on a rota. 2 adults always there to prevent incidents. Mrs Price outlined plans to move shelter onto the field and then use the grass area as well as ultimately install a 'scramble wall'.

**e) Junior site choir (Yr 3)** – Question from one parent about the lack of Junior site choir. The children sing regularly but without Mrs. Baker there is no one to run a choir. Miss. Mitchell does singing assembly and Yukele club. The Carol concert is still going ahead and there are plans to show the parents their children playing their musical instruments at some point. Mrs Price to ask if any interested/talented parents would like to take on running the choir.

**f) School bus from Cuddington (Yr 3)** Concerns from a few parents about the school bus driving too fast and causing children to feel sick. Amey transport run the bus and Bucks County Council should be contacted by email cc. Mrs. Price. Previously where there have been concerns BCC have taken it seriously and sent out spot check inspectors to follow the bus.

**g) Pick-up times and collection (Yr 3)** – Where parents have children at both sites, a number of parents are worried about lack of time following late release of children on Infant site after 3.20pm. If parking sensibly in Cuddington then at the church in Dinton as directed, picking up at the Junior site by 3.25pm is not feasible. Mrs. Price to ensure children get out on time at the Infants. She outlined that she can't extend school day given the cost that would incur. Teachers at the Junior site are aware of who has children at the Infant site and being a bit late (up to 10 minutes) is not a problem. It is understandable that parents with children at both sites may be slightly late, but the main problem is those who are late on a regular basis. Where the bus is available to pick up and drop off and parents choose not to use the bus then the consequence to that choice is getting between the sites quickly.

**h) After School Clubs (Yr 2, Yr 5)** – Organisation of clubs plus lack of parental involvement at Junior site was raised by a number of parents. Children signing up for own teacher led clubs resulted in some mis-communication and confusion for parents. Mrs. Price outlined that the system moved away from slips parents filled in to electronic booking or surveys to make it easier which was good for parents but not for the school. Before took a lot of admin time to sort out slips or collate Survey Monkey responses. Question raised - can the choice of clubs go out at end of summer term? All other terms can do before break-up previous term for teacher led clubs but not in September as not sure which staff will be running clubs in the autumn.

Although some parents were unhappy with children signing up to clubs by themselves on days when either they or their children had other arrangements. From the school's point of view the new system worked well as any changes following parental comments could be made easily over a couple of days directly between the children and Mrs Price. The slip letting parents know which club they got into went back and then if want to do other clubs they could if there was room. In future the plan would be to send an email to the parents first, then fill out printed email with preferences agreed between parent and child, then for the children to bring in and then sign up themselves having given their slip to Mrs. Price.

Morning and Night Owls also changed booking system due to the number of parents having not paid. Now have to book in advance and then there will be a window when can pay notified by letters going out to allow to pay electronically on School Gateway or pay by childcare vouchers. Possible to email requesting one off sessions to make more flexible but have to pay by cheque. Meeting with company to make more efficient for school and parents. If don't know what teacher led clubs are then may have paid for after school club as well but will only be case for summer term, plus Night Owls extends beyond clubs to 5.30pm on the Infants and 5.45 on the Juniors.

Lunch time clubs – not many on infant site. Planned to have a more fluid arrangement of clubs so children can attend when want to as often they either forget to attend or only try something once.

**i) School communication** (Yr 3, Yr 4, Yr 5, Yr 6) – Brought up by most year groups. Mrs. Price acknowledged there had been problems with communication in September particularly around school clubs raised by most year groups. Would ask parents to use the school calendar and subscribe on the website. The newsletter will contain a 2 week rolling calendar. The Newsletter will be posted on website and Mrs. Wilde regularly updating. Mrs. Price to investigate whether a 'Ping' for new entries on the calendar to come up on phones would be possible. The school try to give as much warning as possible for events and they are focusing communication since it frequently comes up as an issue.

**j) Learn and Master** (Yr F) – low take-up with only 2 or 3 children enrolled possibly due to names such as 'Invasion Games' being off-putting. Learn and Master are going to better explain what is involved. Mrs. Praise questioned whether Foundation should be allowed to attend for the first term, but the school feels it is not so much about the children being tired at first since many had an extended day at nursery, but more about their maturity level and taking adult instruction. Spring and Summer terms will be available and Night Owls can be booked in the first term.

**4. Ofsted:** The School were very pleased with the Ofsted report and hope that all parents will read it. They were bowled over with number of responses to the Parent View survey, now 112. Mrs. Price thanked the parents for their fantastic response and support. The Governing Body and the School will now take on board recommendations.

Dates of Future Meetings on Calendar on website – next one 9am Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February, Junior Site.