

Cuddington and Dinton Church of England School

Minutes of Parent Forum

Held at Cuddington & Dinton CofE School, Dinton Site

On 3rd March 2023

Present: Nicola Wilde (Chair), Ali Hadley (Y6), Hannah Young (Y5), Ruth Redding (Y4), Poppy Smith (Y2), Karen Gwynne (Y1), Samantha Rockett (R). Apologies from Rachel Miller (Y3).

The parent forum reps make a decision on whether they take the topics raised to the agenda for discussion. The topics should be related to the school in general, and anything relating to specific classes should be raised by the parent directly with the teacher (the parent rep will let you know if this is the case).

Item	Topic	Minute
1	Reading	Parents in infants are not seeing stamps in the child's reading logs for weeks at a time, indicating to them that the teachers may not be listening to their child read but this is not the case. The children's reading is listened to daily in a variety of ways e.g. guided reading. The teachers have just finished the half-termly reading assessments and most children will have been moved to a new level. In Y2, reading priority is about inference, understanding etc. which will be communicated to parents. Parents feel it is important to read 'normal' books as well as phonics books. Y2 should now have two books. An email will be sent out asking for parent volunteers.
2	School Meals	Parents have asked if the children are encouraged to eat the vegetables at lunchtime and if the meals are well-balanced. Infants always get given vegetables on their plate and are encouraged to eat them by the lunch-time supervisors. There can be a lack of variety of vegetables and this could be improved. Cucumber batons and tomatoes are being trialled. Another suggestion was lettuce boats. It is felt by the lunch-time staff that the meals have improved since the last parent forum and Mrs Wilde has met with the provider. A sticker system was suggested for the infant site for those who eat all of their meal.
3	Theme Days	There were three theme days / craft homework tasks very close to each other for the older children which became quite time consuming and it was requested that perhaps these takes could be more spread out. Some children were disappointed that there was no dressing up for World Book Day however this was due to the additional fundraising day the week before where the children dressed up as their heroes. The school felt it would be too much to ask the children to find two costumes within a week. The foundation class could do with some more guidance regarding the more abstract activities such as 'book

in a box/jar/cake' to help them understand what is required. Photos of examples could be sent when tasks are set. Ideas page on the school website [here](#).

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| 4 | School Clubs | There is a clash this term with tennis and the board game club leading to disappointment for those who would have preferred the board game club but booked tennis prior to the school-run clubs being announced. It would therefore be helpful to have the clubs listed in advance to enable full choice. It was suggested that a set day for the clubs would be helpful and then decide what the clubs would be but having a set day means that some children would never be able to attend. |
| 5 | Intercom at Infant Site | The intercom at Cuddington does not seem to be working properly leaving some parents waiting a while for the door to be opened. It may not be set loudly enough. Mrs. Wilde will check. |
| 6 | Residential Trips | There is currently no plan for Y3, Y4 or Y5 to have a residential trip. The school is looking to get something booked. A plan is needed and Mrs Wilde will be working on this. |
| 7 | Drinking Water in School | There is always water nearby and the bottles are taken outside at breaktimes. Water is always available and they are always allowed it. Water bottles are not always on the table but can be if they feel unwell or have a headache, for example. The children can refill their bottles as needed and all taps in the school are drinking water. |
| 8 | Dinton Pick-up Safety | Collection time at Dinton seems chaotic and dangerous at times and it was asked if there were any ways to make this safer. Staggered finish doesn't work, having trialed it during the Covid 'bubbles'. There are lots of children who could get the bus that don't and this increases traffic. The school will remind parents to park sensibly, and move around the green if their child is not there. The white parking lines could be repainted. Potential option of putting signs up. Possibly a lollipop lady to help children cross the road safely (school doesn't meet threshold requirements). Is it possible for parents to help with crossing duties? (Not allowed by council/insurance) Staff will ensure they wear hi-vis jackets when on bus duty. The bus children could be led out slightly earlier, meaning the bus leaves sooner and improves visibility. Mrs Wilde will look at these options and see what can be done to improve the situation. |
| 9 | Parents' Evenings | It was queried if parents' evenings could continue to be on Zoom, however, it was been agreed that they are more beneficial in person, with the added benefit of being able to see the children's work in their books. |
| | Meeting Close | The next meeting date is Friday 30 th June 2023. |