



Parents' Forum Meeting Minutes

Friday 17th November 2017

4.00pm

In Attendance: Mrs Hutley, Mrs Wright, Mrs Wilkins, Mrs Bouchlaghem, Mrs Thorncraft Smith, Dr Olotu-Umoren, Mr Browne and Mrs Browne

Apologies: Mrs Orpen, Mrs De Silva, Mr Rudkin

1. **Matters arising from the last meeting minutes**

Continued discussion regarding weighing out of ingredients for Food lessons. It is necessary to weigh out items at home to avoid using up time in lessons. PH will speak to the Food teacher about keeping a stock of minimum use ingredients, e.g. salt, baking powder, bicarb of soda; where only a pinch/teaspoon is required.

PH showed a few senior skirt samples to the group – we do not yet have the sample we requested. Looking at a new skirt to introduce to seniors - to give a little more modesty especially when sitting e.g. in assembly. Also a clip on tie has been sampled – much better for use across all years. Two sample coats were shown. The green reversible one was thought to be a decent garment, if branded, and depending on costs. Likely to be juniors - we probably would ask for item to be stocked but not a compulsory item. Not sure if the black was an option for seniors? PH will confirm prices.

2. **Traffic calming/parking on Villa Road**

There is ongoing concern with traffic speeding down Villa Road where there is a 20mph limit in place. Not necessarily from our parents as this road is commonly used as a cut through. There is a sign but is obscured by branches.

We can raise awareness by perhaps having a competition within Junior School to design and display a poster about road safety. We could also display other banners to promote general safety.

Contact with NCC has so far proved fruitless. TTS suggested a neighbours/business partners'/parents' pressure group. PH is aware of the sensitivities with neighbours currently and does not wish to overly draw attention as our parents cause some of the issues. I will contact our local councillor to see if she has any suggestions, as well as taking some internal action.

3. **School lunch menu**

Briefly looked at the lunch menu and discussed meat Vs vegetarian options and whether the meat-free option always needs to be a vegetarian version of the meat choice e.g. Chicken curry should be alongside Quorn curry. There was not a huge concern expressed about the similarity of choices as long as there was the possibility of sandwich for e.g. non curry eaters. It was appreciated that the accompaniments had to be the same for both mains offered. It came to light that a number of children in Junior School do not like cheese therefore a few tweaks will be made to the menu to avoid consecutive days with cheese, and some omitting the cheese altogether. This will be followed up with the chef.

The question of food waste was brought up. We do not currently donate any waste to any charity as we cannot always guarantee what there may be each day, if any. TTS suggested Emmanuel House would collect and are desperate for spare food. Should we speak to them and see if this could be done on an ad hoc basis? PH To pursue.

4. School site development

The group were asked what they would like to see improved given the chance and funding. Ideas include expanding the Music Room to be able to incorporate a drum kit for private lessons; a Junior School ICT suite; a SEND hub. Holiday care was also brought up again – we face challenges with this especially over the age range. We always recommended holiday clubs to parents that we know of, e.g. Leo's Den in Arnold.

5. School curriculum visits

This item will be discussed at the next meeting.

6. Safety measures for school visits

With our school trip to Voice in a Million at Wembley being planned for March 2018, it was questioned whether pupils would be spoken to about safety in relation to possible terrorist threats. Full risk assessments are carried out before all school visits. PH will consider whether any safety talk is required. Parents are of course welcome to look at individual venue policies on safety.

7. Next Meeting

The next Parents' Forum Meeting will be held on Friday 2nd February 2018 at 4.00pm.