

## **Parent Forum Minutes**

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

- **Parent Forum – how can we attract more people to the parent forum? Change of days, times, online, at school, in the morning, afternoon?**
  - *Each term, a different time of day or different day so that different adults would come.*
  - *Want it to continue to be regular because we feel it is valuable and would like other parents to come and have the experience*
  - *Send out the agenda and parents could submit ideas if they are unable to attend the meeting*
  - *A box with suggestions in the office for people to drop*
  - *PTA have a parent who is a class rep (it is not an onerous job it's just passing on the latest information from the PTA) - could there be a class rep for the parent forum? Perhaps the class rep. could make sure that someone attends the meeting for that term if they can't.*
  - *Teachers are unaware who the class reps are. It would be good for them to know too.*
  - *Online or in person? The parents who attended liked the in person element because conversations flow more easily.*
  - *At one school, they run online short sessions for different initiatives or changes to try and engage as many parents as possible.*
  - *Run it as a Hybrid on the main screen so people could listen in without having to be there in person.*
  - *A display of chocolates and wine on the table so parents feel they are missing out!*
- **Transition – 3 mornings over the Summer plus a staff INSET for staff to share information. What would the children like to know? What would parents like to know? How could we improve transition?**
  - *Digital Toolkit for each Year, what is different, what will child need e.g. bringing fruit, do they need pencil cases. This would be good to go out before the Summer holidays. WHAT TO EXPECT IN YEAR X!*
  - *Keen on the one page layout of the Curriculum Leaflets and the Heads- Up newsletter. So a Toolkit like that would be useful.*
  - *Discussion about some of the main differences between Bluebells and Year 1 curriculum as many of the parents at the meeting were Bluebells parents.*
  - *Parents both said how successful and brilliant the transition sessions have been for their children as they have moved up through the school. Children seem very happy and confident after the*
  - *They liked the 'all about me' that Miss Lambie and her TAs produced for the children one year.*
  - *Staff explained the additional sessions that each of the teachers have with the previous and next teacher when they share as much information about all the children, their families and their data etc.*
  - *On September INSET day the school is open between 2pm and 3pm for any parent who would like to bring their child in. Many parents have really appreciated this. Nice for the parents too so that they*

*can visualise where the children will be in the school building, what the classroom is like and who the staff are.*

- **AOB**

- *Seesaw – some parents want sheets printed out.*
- *Could staff produce a guide for how to use Seesaw. Ms Barker has done a couple of sessions for Year 1 parents showing them how to use the tools which they found really useful.*
- *KS1 children are not self-sufficient – finding the homework tricky*
- *Lots of lorries going too fast down the hill and not necessarily stopping at the pedestrian crossings when the lights are red. Parents are starting to be concerned that there are no traffic calming methods on that road. John Hampden have a 'Lollipop Lady'. Staff mentioned a scheme whereby parents can be trained to be road safety officers.*
- *End of Year Report tells whether children are ARE, GD. One parent had fed back that they would like to know this 'on paper' earlier in the academic year.*
- *Parents asked some questions about dojos. Is there more that parents need to know about it? Is it something parents need to be more involved in. We explained that we use it for positive praise.*
- *Parents asked questions about parents videoing at concerts and all the children can see is parents filming no phones. Could the school produce a video at the back of the hall for of every performance. A password protected format could be purchased by the children. Could photographs be purchased of children in their costumes*
- *Could the parents of the children who do not wish them to be in videos for that production let the office know they do not wish to appear in the videos.*
- *Reminder that no parents should be sharing videos through WhatsApp as it is a social media platform.*