

Parent Forum Meeting Minutes

Date: 10th February 2022

Present: GP, EM, GBT, JC, CL

Key Questions requested from school for feedback on were:

What further support would parent's like on Google Classroom to help support their child/ren at home?

What workshops would parents like to enable them to support their child with learning at home.

Feedback

Internet safety

- More support in putting in safety measures
- How to control 'what is out there', what we can do to help the children understand at home
- More frequent updates for the children at school

Action:

- We discussed undertaking a workshop in the summer term involving the children and looking into getting outside agency support to help to ensure what we are delivering is the most up to date information and advice. Previously the community police have supported in delivering these sessions. *GP to contact them to see if this is something they can help with.*
- Parent forum reps will help to promote these sessions to help maximise attendance.

Support with maths, phonics and reading

Discussion on how much education and teaching techniques have changed since parents were in primary school, especially methods for teaching certain areas of maths, along with phonics and reading.

Action:

- We discussed the use of workshops as a supportive measure and how it would be useful to have these at different times of the day to try to enable more people to attend. Also, if it would be possible to have a workshop straight after school and school to provide child care.

Maths

- Support in how we teach certain areas of maths – decimals, fractions and percentages.
- We discussed how teaching techniques and terminology has changed since parents were at school

Action:

- GP to discuss with maths subject leaders to see if 'crib sheets' in how to teach maths could be produced
- We discussed if it would be possible to support through providing parents with demonstration videos, again GP to discuss with subject leader

Reading and phonics

- Parents would like further workshops on next steps for parents of children in Foundation and Year 1 as parents appreciative of the one in the autumn term, could this be extended for parents of Oak and other classes
- Could crib sheets and advice on how to teach phonics and reading be produced?

Action:

- GP to discuss with English subject leaders to see if 'crib sheets' on how to teach phonics and reading could be produced
- We discussed if it would be possible to support through providing parents with demonstration videos, again GP to discuss with subject leader

A.O.B

Discussion on communication – how can we reach more families with our newsletter/what is happening in school?

Action:

- Parents in charge of WhatsApp groups will upload newsletter and remind that they can find this on our website.
- GP to check with admin to see if we can put on our FB page also.

Foundation Parents

Some **specific questions** were asked and EM to advise that these need to be addressed with the class teacher or Mrs Simpson, while Miss Bowyer is absent. These include:

- Asking if parents should be correcting spelling and use of capital letters when children are writing at home?
- Do children rotate through learning areas, or can they stay at the same activity or do their 'own thing'?
- Are the children put into ability groups?
- Is progression encouraged?
- What do children need to know by the end of foundation, to prepare for the year 1 phonics screening.
- Questions on the use of Tapestry, lack of photos of what their child is doing – the updates are not the same as when the children were at nursery
- Google Classroom – how is this used, is everything commented on? Should the homework be brought in or out back on Google Classroom?
- What certificates are used?

Action:

- GP will ensure that these questions can be addressed during the induction, we have on our website FAQ's and GP to look at these to add any of the above to support and sign post parents to.
- GP to ensure AHT is aware of these questions to ensure they are addressed at parents' evenings after half term
- Re-introduce welcome meeting at the beginning of the academic year

- EM to advise via WhatsApp group that parents can contact the class teacher via Google Classroom, by emailing admin@woodbury.dvon.sch.uk or asking the class teacher for a meeting. Communication books can also be used.

Singing Concerts

Please can these be re-established, singing is excellent for mental health. Can we have choir as a club after school or during lunchtime?

- Due to COVID we have not been allowed to sing for some time, however it is being reintroduced and the signing at the Christmas PTFA event outside was wonderful.

Action:

- We will re-establish a concert in due course, we hope in the future to be able to hold Nativity, Carol and Easter Services –all of which the children will sing. Hymn practices will also be re-introduced
- We can put on the newsletter that we are looking for someone to run a school choir, however they would need to have all safe guarding checks and be willing to lead the choir without a member of staff.
- Parent forum to ask around and see if there is anyone in the community that can help with this.

Values Certificate

Please can the Head sit with the children again on a Friday for those who get a values certificate?

- At the moment we are very short staffed at lunch, this mean that The Head of School serves lunch or is on lunch duty everyday so it is not possible at the moment. If we are able to fulfil the vacant positions, then this will start again.

Google Classroom

Can the younger children move away from Google Classroom for their home learning and go back to books? Parents like to see how their children have progressed through the year.

- In the younger classes there should be lots of practical and investigative activities and less recording on pieces of paper, parents can make comments or take a photo and upload to Google classroom
- For the moment we are staying with home learning being posted on Google Classroom, however, anyone can request to have the learning printed rather than on Google classroom, especially if they do not have the technology to support. All parents receive their child's books at the end of the year, showing what they have been learning through the year.

Action:

GP to talk to Mrs Simpson to ensure the parents in the younger year groups understand how Google classroom is used. This will be included in the Induction as it is something new that we have introduced for foundation this year and something we have continued with since online home learning started in March 2020. Mrs Simpson can explain this at the parents meetings after half term.

Football at lunchtime

Discussion that many children are saying that some children are taking control and dominating, and although letting others play are making them feel inferior and negative comments are being made.

Does football have to be played every day? Is football supervised?

Action:

- Football is always supervised, with clear rules that children sign up to – GP to speak to WN regarding this to ensure a whole school approach.
- There will be two football sessions on the school field during the week, supervised by our sports coach, children who want to do this can have their lunch early and will need to change as the field is muddy at the moment.
- GP to discuss lunchtimes with School Council to get the children's opinions and then make any changes accordingly. Also to see how we can make playtimes a positive time for all children.

Could we have friendship bench back?

The friendship Stop broke (blew over in the wind).

Action:

Mrs Faulkner (TA) is donating a 'buddy bench' as her leaving present straight next half term

Menu

Parents have raised concerns that they now have to pre-order any allergen meals, previously they could order on the day. Pre-ordering is not always possible; please can this be looked into as it did not used to be the case.

Action:

Mrs Saim (EHT) is meeting NORSE catering straight after half term to talk about the menu and will also raise this with the kitchen manager.

Thank you to our volunteers for bringing these items to the meeting, if anyone else would like to join please do email admin@woodbury.devon.sch.uk

Next meeting: TBC