

West Tytherley C.E. (Controlled) Primary School



West Tytherley
Salisbury
Wiltshire SP5 1JX
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Friday 9th September 2016

Dear Parents,

As many of you will be aware, we have run a 'family forum' during the last few academic years. This was originally formed as part of our on-going desire to improve family engagement and has been effective in improving communication between home and school.

The family forum consists of one parent representative from each of the four classes, Mrs. Clutterbuck (school governor), Mr. Warren and myself. We meet **for approximately one hour every half term** in order to discuss suggestions, initiatives, events, queries and concerns. It is not our intention to discuss personal issues, but rather a time to discuss general issues, initiatives and events relevant to all families within the school.

We feel that the family forum is successful in allowing us to hear parental views and also in seeking opinions regarding new initiatives. In addition, the feedback we have received strongly suggests families have welcomed the increased communication allowed by the forum and the opportunity for the family voice to be heard in school. Some of the achievements of the family forum during the last academic year were as follows:

- Provision of a 'Curriculum and Assessment' workshop for parents as requested via the forum.
- Changing the date of the Year R phonics workshop to just before half term as it was felt that this was a more appropriate time for new parents to receive the information.
- We had an 'acts of kindness' week as suggested via the family forum.
- Parents are now notified of children receiving awards in 'Celebration Assembly' on a Thursday evening.
- Use of 'I banged my head today' stickers following minor playground injuries.
- Letters about sports events are sent home with all children eligible to attend rather than just with those who express an interest.

We are very grateful to the past representatives for all that they brought to the family forum. Two of the reps (Mrs Sherriff and Mrs Jones) are willing to remain in post if necessary, but recognise that other parents might like to be involved. Consequently, we would like to offer all parents the opportunity to become reps for this academic year. I have attached a separate sheet outlining the role of a family forum representative in order that you can see what it entails. Further details and minutes of previous meetings are available on the school website under the 'parents', 'family forum' section.

If you are interested in being involved, we would love to hear from you! If you are keen to become a family forum representative or would like further information about the family forum, **please return the slip below to the school office as soon as possible.**

Yours sincerely

Andrea Hodgson
Deputy Headteacher

FAMILY FORUM

Please return slips to the school office as soon as possible. They will be forwarded to Miss Hodgson

I would like more information regarding 'The Family Forum'

I am interested in being part of 'The Family Forum'

I have a child (children) in class(es) _____.

I can be contacted via the following e-mail address (optional):

Parent's Name _____ Date _____

Many Thanks!