

Family Forum Minutes 31.1.17

Present	Mel Jones (MJ), Sandra Grinevicius (SG), Andrea Hodgson (AH), Mike Warren (MW)
Apologies	Marion Clutterbuck (MC), Ginny Sherriff (GS)
1.Actions From the Previous Meeting (AH)	<p>Parents are using the suggestion forms. All suggestions were collated 1 week prior to this meeting (24.1.17).</p> <p>AH is investigating potential links with the community in order to support our school curriculum.</p> <p>Mrs Parker has written a comprehensive action plan in order to further embed outdoor learning opportunities into our curriculum.</p> <p>SATs preparation has begun in Oak Class. Homework will focus on this after half term. Year 2 children have also received SATs study books.</p> <p>AH is currently looking into a whole school fundraising event (on the agenda).</p>
2. World Book Day (AH)	<p>This is on Thursday 2nd March. AH is currently investigating ideas for celebrating this event in consultation with staff. However, we requested parents' thoughts about how best to mark the day. Although there were no comments from parents, the reps suggested dressing up as favourite book characters as this has not been done in recent years. The School Council also said that they would like to dress up this year. Reps suggested that children could bring in unwanted books to sell to others. This would enable children to buy books and raise funds for the school. We currently need to raise funds to upgrade our library computer system as the existing one is obsolete.</p> <p>AH will take these suggestions to the staff. Once decisions have been made, she will write a letter to parents, informing them of World Book Day events.</p>
3. Whole School Fundraising (AH), 'The Golden Mile' (MW)	<p>Although we often raise funds for various charities, we have had limited sponsored events which involve the children raising money for their school. AH is considering linking this to World Book Day with a sponsored readathon. However, again, we requested parents' thoughts. Although there were no comments from parents for this agenda item, reps liked the idea of a readathon. We also discussed 'The Golden Mile' which could be a whole school fundraising initiative. It would involve marking out a course of a mile long in the school grounds and children are sponsored to complete circuits of it over a period of time. We are considering doing this as part of our summer sports week.</p> <p>AH to continue to plan for a sponsored readathon. MW to continue to investigate the possibility of doing 'The Golden Mile' as part of sports week.</p>

<p>4. KS1 Reading Records</p>	<p>A parent has requested that KS1 teachers make occasional (every 2 – 3 weeks) comments about children’s reading progress in their reading records. This would guide parents when supporting their children at home. Another parent agreed that this would be valuable. Reps commented that KS2 children are given house points for home reading and asked if this could be applied to KS1 as motivation and encouragement.</p> <p>AH/MW will discuss the possibility of house points and more frequent reading record comments with staff.</p>
<p>5. Trips (MJ)</p>	<p>A parent asked what happens about KS1 lunches when the children go on a trip. KS1 meals are free, so could the children be provided with a packed lunch on a trip day? Everyone felt that this was an extremely valid question.</p> <p>MW/AH to investigate whether packed lunches should be provided for KS1 children when they go on trips.</p>
<p>6. Sports Clubs (MJ)</p>	<p>A parent asked if clubs could be organised in advance of the new term. Another parent said that this would be appreciated. They also suggested that Tuesday may not be the best day for a sports club since children are involved in other community clubs on this day; this can affect uptake at a West Tytherley club. We have sports coaches available on Tuesdays and Wednesdays currently, but we are investigating the use of coaches from other companies. Jessie Newitt has sent an e-mail to parents asking which clubs/days would be preferable. A rep asked if there could be a dance club. AH said that this might be a possibility through one of the sports coaching companies we are investigating. A rep also asked if clubs could be substituted for another activity if they have to be cancelled. She suggested children could watch a DVD. AH explained that this is difficult since a club is usually only cancelled if a staff member is unavailable to run it. It would be unfair to ask another member of staff to run someone else club as they all run their own.</p> <p>JN to collate responses from parents re clubs. AH/JN to investigate the possibility of having a dance club. Office staff/teachers to organise clubs in advance of the new term and inform parents if possible.</p>

<p>7. Information about the Governing Body (GS)</p>	<p>A parent requested more information about the work of the governing body and commented that the minutes were not up-to-date on the school website. There were no further suggestions regarding what communication parents would like about the governing body. MW is currently updating the website. Reps asked whether there could be an annual report to parents from the governors. They also asked if the occasional newsletter item from the Chair could be reinstated.</p> <p>AH to discuss comments made with the Chair of Governors.</p>
<p>8. Linking with Other Schools for Sport (GS)</p>	<p>A parent asked if we could link with other schools in order to enhance/share costs of sports provision. MW/AH explained that we already do. We use some of our sports funding to be part of the Test Valley Cluster Sports which enables us to be part of all the sporting events which take place at local schools. One rep asked if we join up with another cluster school to make teams. This is certainly something we could look into. We also have links with Norman Court School which enable one of our classes to have sport there once a week and some of our children play with those from Norman Court in football and netball tournaments. A rep asked if we could enter Test Valley competitions with Norman Court children. Again, we could look into this. We have recently established links with Personal Best Education which may open up more opportunities for us. A rep asked if sports day could take place in the morning to allow more time for this event. It was suggested that the PTA could sell refreshments and that the school could have a picnic lunch.</p> <p>Emma Procter (EP - PE leader) will continue to look for opportunities to link with other schools.</p> <p>MW/AH/EP to consider having sports day in the morning.</p> <p>MW/AH/EP to look into joining with other schools at cluster events and asking if Norman Court children could join our teams.</p>
<p>9. Additional Comments and Questions Submitted (not included within this agenda).</p>	<p>A parent requested that one class' blog is updated more frequently.</p> <p>Another parent asked if it was the case that the heating was not working for 2 days before Christmas. They asked to be informed in order that they could put extra layers on their children. If the heating is not working, engineers come very quickly and provide temporary heaters if necessary.</p> <p>Another parent asked if tickets for school productions could include seat allocations. MW/AH said that they would ensure fair seating arrangements at future productions.</p>
<p>10. Date of Next Meeting</p>	<p>28th March 2017</p>
<p>11. Date to Request Agenda Items</p>	<p>7th March 2017 (3 weeks before meeting)</p>

12. Date to Suggest Agenda Items to AH	14 th March 2017 (2 weeks before meeting)
13. Date to Circulate Proposed Agenda	21 st March 2017 (1 week before meeting)