



Parent Forum Minutes

Date	16/01/26
Time	14.00 start
Venue	Staff room
Present : CD, SH, KR, DC, JL, LB, HS, AH, LT, KS	
Apologies :	

Item	By
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome 	SH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introductions <p>Meeting well attended, forum to consider whether to fill Acorn and Y3 vacancies</p>	All
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apologies 	SH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approve minutes <p>Minutes approved, no comments received.</p>	SH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Governor Update <p>Link governors have been aligned to subject areas and this year's meetings with teachers will conclude by mid-May</p>	SH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teacher and Headteacher feedback <p>Parents recognised the exceptional efforts and contribution of teachers and teaching assistants and thanked the Head for her leadership. Feedback was also shared on how comfortable children were with the transition between year groups and how wonderful the Christmas plays were this year.</p>	Y2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forest School and after school clubs <p>Parent feedback is that the forest and the after-school club offerings are very well received. A request was made for an after-school club that focused on art/creative areas. CD confirmed that this would be</p>	Y2

<p>considered but would be subject to staff availability. Possible Community art project suggested by JL As those supporting after-school clubs are paid, any cost would also need to be borne by parents.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OPAL – Risky play, rough and tumble <p>Parents asked what the guidance was on risky play. Y5 parents also asked how the “rough and tumble” play area was managed / monitored.</p> <p>CD confirmed that these were valid questions and that the school took safety matters very seriously. Key points -</p> <p>RE: Risky play</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All play areas are risk assessed in accordance with HSE guidance (available on the school’s website) • The scale and risk of the play areas need to grow with the children if they are to remain engaging • Zero risk is of course not a realistic option - Children can have accidents outside of the school environment. We aim to mitigate risk where possible and teach children to assess risks • Safety is always our priority <p>RE: Rough and tumble play –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Willesley is an OPAL school. Rough and tumble play is one of the 16 core play types used in OPAL. Further context and guidance for parents is available on both the school’s website and via OPAL • Rough and tumble play is not be about violence, rather should encourage self-control and regulation. The school has facilitated children in negotiating boundaries, understanding “hands on” consent, being respectful and helping one another • Assemblies on rules shared regarding play • Rough and tumble play was assessed by KS2 children at a recent assembly. Participation was about 50/50, but all children were keen to keep rough and tumble play in school • There is no prescribed ratio of adults to children outdoors - schools have to assess and ensure areas are monitored safely the rough and tumble play area is monitored by adults in the vicinity 	<p>Y2/Y5</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wet play 	<p>Y5</p>

<p>Each year group has a welly store, and children can store separate coats if their warmer winter coats are not waterproof. The school will aim to have children outside unless it is physically unsafe and wet/rain play is part of this.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lunch timings <p>Children are aware that they have 15 minutes to eat lunch and the lunch area closes 15 minutes after the final meal is served. Lunch timings have recently changed and Y4 now go in for lunch last. Children are encouraged to focus on eating and 15 minutes is usually sufficient.</p> <p>The school would like to allow KS2 children to eat within a 15-minute slot of their choosing, but this is currently logistically unworkable given likely peaks, allergy management, etc.</p>	Y4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupil and staff wellbeing <p>CD is passionate about mental health and wellbeing for children and staff. The Trusted Adult setup works well and is understood by the children. The new Bounce survey has been useful and has flagged check-ins with some children.</p> <p>A study was shared with parents about the state of staff wellbeing in schools. Nationally, the majority of education staff report high levels of stress and associated issues. Staff retention in the education center is critical. CD thanked parents for their constructive dialogue and for the positive feedback received at the beginning of the meeting.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ofsted change in grading <p>Changes to the Ofsted grades and process were shared ahead of a note from the trust to all parents</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast club food times <p>CD reminded the group that breakfast cut off is 08:20. This needs to be enforced so that the area can be turned around prior to the start of the school day. Please ensure all children requiring breakfast arrive prior to this cut off.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AOB <p>CD signposted the announcement from Babyplanet RE: closure of the Ashby store Parents raised the issue of coats going missing – children will be reminded to store appropriately.</p>	

Impact of meeting :

- Community art project
- Newsletter to include information on 'rough and tumble'

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