

## 1.12.16 Parents Voice Minutes 9.00am & 7pm

### **Present**

9am - 4 parents

7pm - 4 Parents, 1 Parent Governor & 1 Staff Governor

### **Matters Arising**

Evening meeting discussed the school website, CS to send updated text for website to Mrs Alison for approval.

### **Uniform Policy**

In the uniform policy it says that black/dark grey school shorts and red and white checked/striped only permitted in the summer term. We do have very hot weather in the autumn term so would like shorts and summer dresses to be permitted on hot days regardless of the term.

Evening meeting agreed about wearing summer uniform regardless of the season, if the weather is warm summer uniform should be permitted.

The P.E. dress code states that trainers are permitted in KS2. A suggestion was made that this could be lowered to KS1 as well.

When undertaking swimming lessons it states that goggles are not allowed unless for medical reasons. Goggles can help improve water confidence and in some swimming clubs children are allowed to wear them and would also benefit from wearing them during school swimming lessons.

Evening meeting suggesting putting forward having a choice of plimsolls or trainers in KS1 as trainers can provide more support for some children. It was also noted that any changes in the policy should be noted in the Induction Book also.

On pg. 3 of the policy - is it worth saying named coats, hats and gloves need to be brought to school every day?

### **Data Form**

New form has more space to fill in information which is good however the telephone box looks a bit small. Most people have 3 numbers. A separate box could be added to include work details. It is a lot longer than the previous form. Do we need the additional information section? This seems more relevant to the class teachers to store. Maybe the additional information could be obtained during home visits and transition days. If it does need to be included explain to parents why? A covering letter may need to go out to explain new terminology, eg, EHCP.

Evening meeting suggested the possibility of having the form online to complete, would save time for parents and office staff. The evening meeting were not sure of the need for the 'additional information' box, whether it was relevant for this form. Also agreed that the

boxes were too small on the 2 page data form. Would ideally like bigger boxes and the ability to complete online with possibly an online signature.

### **Promotion of Parent Voice**

Evening meeting discussed the promotion of Parent Voice and that the previous 'welcome to' meeting with cake had gone well but need to ensure parents come to meetings with solutions and not just a place to bring issues. Suggested possibly do another 'welcome to' meeting next September.

### **After School Provision**

We feel parents would like a letter to go out asking for expressions of interest about the possibility of setting up an after school club. It is important not to get parents hopes up as it may not be possible.

The evening meeting agreed with the above but it was also suggested to explain why there isn't a provision at present, maybe a list the reasons. Staff Governor explained a childminder had been interested but extra members of staff were needed etc and they weren't qualified so they were unable to proceed. It was also discussed that Breakfast Club is run by staff and it's not possible for staff to run an after school club as they are working after the children leave at 3:15pm.

### **Homework**

Could homework expectations go out on curriculum newsletters? There also needs to be consistency between year group classes. Also consistency with the rewards given for homework. It would also be useful if curriculum newsletters went out at the beginning of term.

Evening meeting suggested that homework should be brought up directly with teachers but also that there needs to be consistency ideally throughout the school, especially within year groups. The other key point raised in meetings previously is communication.

### **Newsletters and Correspondence**

Some at evening meeting felt there was a bombardment of information and that some information was sent out with regards to events happening at school with little notice, ie sweet sale on a Friday but sent out on a Friday afternoon. Conversely some information is given out so far ahead that it can be forgotten. Again felt there needs to be consistency as far as possible.

### **Videoing performances**

Could the dress rehearsal be filmed and possibly sold to raise funds for school? (Depending on permissions)

Evening meeting discussed videoing performances and it was pointed out that some children can't be filmed for legal reasons so the above idea is not feasible. It was discussed how photographs of certain performances have been seen on Facebook and it was felt that a reminder would be prudent for parents/guardians not to do this. Photographs and filming is permitted at performances but is not to go on social media. Suggested emailing rather than

posting on Facebook, ie if certain members of family would like to see performances, ie Grandparents, Aunts, Uncles etc.

### **Parents access to teachers/entering school**

'Walk in and share a story' is a lovely idea. Possible each year group rotate days to accommodate parents that work so that maybe they could make some of them rather than none. Teachers are busy especially at the beginning of the day so not unreasonable to ask to see parents at end of the day if it is more than a quick word. Also one parent said she communicates well to class teacher through email. Could parents email through DB Primary?

Evening meeting also approved of the 'Walk in and share a story' idea. Mrs Alison suggested starting from 9<sup>th</sup> January, 8:40-9:00 and 3:00-3:15pm with different days for all year groups. This would be an opportunity to talk with the teacher and be with your child. Staff governor suggested might be an idea to run a few times in the year and any parents that work may be able to take a day off to attend it they wished, some parents may find it difficult to arrive late for work or leave early. It was also noted that, as above, you can email through DB Primary but you can also email to the general email on the website and Mrs Larkin will print off and give to the teachers. Also another option to access the teachers is to make an appointment and visit after school hours.

It was agreed by all that access to teachers before and after school was not really an option due to safeguarding issues and the inability to monitor who was gaining entry - only children should be given access.

### **AOB**

The pegs in the KS1 cloakroom are too close. This is not helping the children to be independent. Could a middle section be put in if lunch trollies were somewhere else?

The evening meeting discussed Facebook and the numerous pages that have been set up. The Playground and Parent Voice page have been validated by Mrs Alison but the Year Group ones haven't. The Playground and Parent Voice pages are 'information out only' and therefore you have no messages back. The Year Group pages have been noted for people viewing their grievances, which is not the reason they were set up.

Next meeting TBA, need to check room availability etc.

Also Chair TBA for next morning meeting.