



# Parent Forum

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December 6pm

*Minutes*



**Leading the meeting...**

**Mr Stock HEADTEACHER**





## Complement (1)



Tag Rugby –kids loved it  
and that they were  
buzzing.



## Issue raised (1)

Celebration assembly. Many parents can not attend the assembly due to work commitments unless its a special one for their child. It would be nice to know whether our child is due to get a certificate prior to the day of the assembly in order to attend. Please could we put this in place so that when the child looks for their parent as they are proud the parent can be there to share their proudness.



# Feedback (1)

- Easier to apply to KS1 pupils as their assembly traditionally has adults within it.
- HT will discuss with Mrs Dunne to see if decisions regarding Learning Awards could be made earlier in the week, allowing a text message to be sent to parents in advance inviting them along to the assembly on Friday afternoon at 2:45 – 3:20pm
- HT agreed that it would be nice for parents to come along and see the presentation. No plans currently to roll out to KS2 for logistic reasons.





## Complement (2)



Reception open morning for perspective parents was brilliant. I know a few of my friends, who weren't considering sending their children here, changed their mind after attending the morning.



## Issue raised (2)

Lunch pick and mix  
provided by kitchen.  
Food selections not  
very good.



## Feedback (2)

- Bursar to report this again to the catering contractor EATS / VERTAS
- The school will put the catering contract out to tender in the next year or so, to see if there are other contractors who would like to run the contract here.







## Complement (3)



Peer Mentoring – What a great course that was! The content and exercises were well thought out and really grabbed the interest of the children.



## Issue raised (3)



There needs to be a sports structure to assist Miss Keeley if events are to be a part of the school programme. Possibly Parental volunteers and a sports calendar.



## Feedback (3)

- ○ Miss Keeley to liaise with local sports partnership to ensure that dates for events are known in advance. These dates can then be built into the schools curriculum allowing children to practice the sports in P.E. lessons and then be selected to represent the sports teams.
- ○ School to identify other teachers and support staff with an interest in sport or a sporting background to support the school events.
- ○ School to look into ways of securing parental support for the sporting competitions and sports that take place in the school to offer more provision / clubs and provide more backup at competitions.





## Complement (4)



Thank you for going paperless! I no longer have to search my child's book bag for screwed up letters that have been sat there for weeks.

I bet the school has saved a fortune on printing costs.



## Issue raised (4)



Drumming doesn't seem to feature in school performances. It would be nice to see drumming becoming an integral part of the music performances in the future.



## Feedback (4)

- ○ Mr Stock has spoken to Ms Jones (Music teacher) and agreed that from now on all performances will need to have drumming as an integral part.
- ○ Mrs Jones to arrange for some children to also perform in Tuesday assemblies, in line with other instrument players.





## Complement (5)



Maths Competition – Some Year 6's went to Northgate for practice sessions for the Maths quiz. All the children came out from the sessions really energised and excited.



## Issue raised (5)



Is soap topped up?

With the rise of sickness bugs etc...What is the school doing to prevent / reduce the amount of children catching a bug?





## Feedback (5)

- ○ Bursar / Site managers to double check all soap dispensers are topped up and that any broken ones are replaced.
- ○ Class teachers / support staff / midday supervisors to reinforce the message of washing hands etc
- ○ 'Wash your hand' toilet signs to be replaced and improved.





## Complement (6)



Christmas crafts - a great session and a brilliant idea to involve parents in the preparation of the Christmas Fair. It was also fantastic to see parents engaged with the school in a positive manner.



## Issue raised (6)



Parking outside the school in between the two school discos was a nightmare!



## Feedback (6)

- ○ Message has been sent out in the December 1<sup>st</sup> Newsletter
- ○ School has some ideas to simplify pick up and drop off at discos (included staggered pick up times) and ideas to help reduce the amount of parents who ended up having to go back and forth on that evening.





## Complement (7)



We can definitely see how the school is changing for the better and would like to thank you and your team for your hard work and dedication.



## Issue raised (7)



Website – On the school development plan it mentioned reception moving towards ‘formal’ teaching. What does that mean? One of the reasons for joining the school was because of the play based reception.



# Feedback (7)

- ○ HT to possibly change the wording to avoid confusion.
- The full School Development Plan SDP has not been uploaded to the website. The SDP is a huge document which does explain in detail what is meant by 'formal'.
- For this school, the last term of year R need a little more 'formality' e.g. some more work at desks, more class taught sessions (preparing children for year 1) and the first term of year 1 needs to retain some of the reception play based element (making year 1 feel less like a shock!). It should blend from reception to year 1.
- The 'formal' message is also about ensuring consistency amongst classes, ensuring that learning across the classes is similar. It does not mean that reception is going to feel like year 1.
- The school does want to retain its play based learning environment in reception. The school does also have to ensure that pupils are reaching the expected standard by the end of year 1. The standards in all years have increased.





## Complement (8)



The new homework is brilliant. I love the new approach. The thinking behind it is so much better. Although I miss doing some maths with my child, we are loving working on the homeworks together!





## Issue raised (8)



Homework – How long does the school keep the topic homework outcomes for and how do they share them? Does it matter if they always do the create option?



## Feedback (8)

- ○ Teachers share and celebrate the completed homework with the class and then put the homework on displays around the corridors. The expectation is that the homeworks are displayed in school for a minimum of two weeks. New homeworks coming into school will replace the homeworks on display.
- ○ Teachers will promote the other categories on the topic homework. Children can complete the 'create' option every time. Parents and teachers will encourage varying it.
- ○ Mrs Rogers will ensure that some of the other category tasks are so appealing that children would want to try them!





## Complement (8)



Tapestry is amazing!

The blogs are great for finding out what my child has been learning because when I ask, he'll say "Nothing!"



Issue raised (8)



Some blogs are not  
as up-to-date as  
others.



## Feedback (8)

- ○ Phase Leaders to ensure that blogs are regularly updated (minimum at least once a week).
- We have lots of class blogs which are regularly updated that have lots of views, we have some that are regularly updated that have very few views, we have some that are not updated as regularly.... Parents can help by making sure they look at the blogs and comments. If staff know that parents are looking they will want to blog more!





## Issue raised (9)



Has the lost property gone?  
I've written names in my  
child's clothes and they still  
end up in the lost property!



## Feedback (9)

- ○ HT to brief all staff and mention in assembly to the children that if something has a name in it we need to take it to the classroom and the child rather than putting it in lost property.
- Lost property has moved from the front entrance and is now stored under the first doorway canopy to the right hand side of the main entrance.





## Issue raised (9)



Year 5 and 6 diaries not used as much as I was expecting!  
Is there a way of making them more useful!





## Feedback (9)

- ○ Mrs Steward (Phase Leader in Year 5 and Year 6) to investigate a manageable way for staff, pupils and parents to use these diaries.
- ○ Mrs Steward to share the intended use with all so everyone know what the expectation is with regards to the diaries.





Issue raised (10)



Playtimes for the youngest children in both playgrounds (Year R and Year 3)



## Feedback (10)

- ○ Mrs Rose to ensure that midday supervisors have a list of children's names to use when completing injury forms.
- ○ School to look into the idea of having volunteers come in and support a three-week rota (bringing a specific activity in every day)
- ○ Mr Stock to continue work with midday supervisors to buy more resources for the playground and to encourage more proactive management at lunchtime.





# Complement (11) and Issue



The parents evening was professionally run but it was nice to be in the classroom to see the work and for some more privacy.



# Feedback (11)

- ○ The Parents evening was run for the second time in the school halls in order to ensure staff were not vulnerable in some of the more remote classrooms. Some of our classrooms e.g. speech and language block, 4C and 4B, the year 5 and 6 are very remote.
- ○ School to look into the idea of having the classrooms open for parents to roam and look at the displays and the learning environment.
- ○ School will look at spreading the year groups across three halls (dining room, north AND south halls) so that privacy can be maintained.





## Issue (12)



Can children who have packed lunches have access to drinking water?

Children not always getting enough time to drink when returning to class after a break time.



## Feedback (12)

- ○ Bursar to double check that all pupils have access to drinking water regardless of whether they are school dinners or packed lunch.
- ○ Teaching staff to ensure that pupils are able to have enough time to drink water by making sure that drinks bottles are not necessarily all stored in the same location within the classroom.
- ○ Teaching staff to remind pupils of different times when they could also have a drink of water. E.g. As they are going out to play.

