

Minutes of Meeting of Parents' Forum

9.15am, Tuesday 1 December 2015

Present: Mel Elliott (ME), Tracey Mawby (TM), Annette Woods (AW), Deb Tull (DT), Karen Cooper (KC) -Link Teacher

Apologies: Linda Marsden

1) Parent /Carer Survey

There was a discussion about carrying a parent/carer survey to find out people's views as children have now settled into school. Two different surveys were presented as a starting point. There was some discussion on the format of the survey and purpose of it. ME suggested there could be a series of surveys focussing on different aspects such as Teaching and Learning, Communication and Parent Involvement etc. This was generally agreed. In addition it was suggested there could be a paper questionnaire and possibly an online version on the school website. This will be investigated. An introductory more general survey could be included around Parents' Evening. It was suggested to let parents know in advance the surveys would be taking place. Parents would be able to complete the survey anonymously or by giving contact details if a response was required. DT suggested children could also take part in an online survey at the end of the year. DT may help with analysis of responses.

Action: ME/KC/Juliet Hart& others meet 9.30am, 18 January 2016 to draft series of questionnaires to feedback to Parents Forum on Monday Feb 1st 2016, 3.30pm.

2) Y3 Farm Trip

KC said the Co-op Farm was closing to schools and she had been to another farm at Whetstone Pastures to see about organising further trips for Y3 children who have not yet been on a farm visit. The farm has Pick Your Own Fruit and a dairy herd of cows. It looks like it would be a summer 2016 trip, but we would require plenty of parents to join us for health & safety reasons. ME and others suggested giving parents plenty of time to book time off work where necessary.

DT asked if 3D would also be able to go on a second farm visit, as they went to the Co-op Farm in November 2015.

Action: KC to organise dates of farm visits in May/June and send out letters in January 2016. Parents to get speedy response if they are to join the trip.

3. Communication

ME asked about having a calendar of events. Most school events are on the Oracle Newsletter and on the school website. Perhaps sports and other club opportunities could be added to the list of events. There is a new sports noticeboard in the Browett entrance. Some clubs are not open to all pupils. Some parents said there was not enough notice of the school photographs being taken and asked for family group shots another time.

KC said there will be future Big Cook Little Cook after school family cookery club starting in Jan/Feb 2016. These will be advertised more widely with the opportunity for people to put their names on a waiting list. AW said she would like to be involved in this.

Action: KC put a note in Oracle about future Parents' Forum meeting dates. Encourage all staff to advertise extra-curricular activities widely.

4) Future meetings

Parents' Forum Meetings will be offered at different times to suit different availability. Some will take place at 9.15 am, others at 3.30pm, and other evening meeting around 7pm will be organised.

Action: Dates of future meetings:

Mon 18 Jan 2016, 9.30am (small group) create series of parent questionnaires.

Date and time of the next Parents' Forum meetings:

Monday 1 February 2016, 3.30pm, discuss the parent/carer surveys, AOB

Monday 14 March 2016, 6.15 pm, discuss new Y2/3 Transition Plan, AOB

Karen Cooper, Parents' Forum Link teacher.

December 2015