

## **Parents Forum 28th September 2018**

*Present: Audrey Andrews, Kate O'Kelly, Marie Chappell, Caroline Richards, Amanda Walbridge, Fran Porter, Jenny Freeman, Leanne Brown (Erin's mum to represent Reception)*

*Apologies : Mrs Hunt*

*Absent:*

### **Agenda**

- **Funding**
- **School development plan**

#### **Share plan**

#### **Discuss big focus on Spelling and Vocabulary**

#### Funding

Funding discussion included falling numbers and cuts by government, the impact on staffing levels. Also how maximum numbers of 30 in a KS1 class, children leaving after key staffing levels have been set and census days have a big impact on key decisions.

#### School development plan

-discussed draft plan which will be in main reception area and in staff room. This will also be on the website and will soon be displayed on the outdoor notice board

DASP and GTAT plans are closely linked to this

Discussed new focus on key spellings during morning activity time before register.

#### **-Outdoor area**

Discussed using the outside area more for other lessons. There is no increased use for lessons such as Music and PHSE but we need to make sure this is sustained when the weather is not so good. INSET in September was on Active learning and this will be followed up in lesson observations throughout the year so even when not outside children being more active

#### Ideas shared

- Have we signed up for daily mile?
- Use environment to make sounds
- Have a digital passport/record where children try to reach a personal or class goal by practising 10mins a day eg how many skips? Something more vigorous than walk and talk.
- Being active whilst register being taken

## **Communication to and from school**

Class pages

Homework books

Home record book- discussed making sure staff sign so it is clear they have been seen

Calendar dates sent out at start of year

Letters on eschools sent out from classes when needed ideally on Thursday where possible

Parents appreciate the school calendar being up to date and detailed. Good feedback about class pages.

Can staff ensure all children have diaries and homework books with them at home time?  
Maybe call it home time passports so they can't leave without them!

- **Reading dog/Reading partners**

- The reading dog has been immensely successful in school and really had a positive impact on many children in more ways than reading alone. Unfortunately due to new health and safety concerns the dog has not been at school recently and the children have really missed Elsie. After careful consideration we have asked Elsie to return and have asked parents to sign permission slips for this. This is continuing to work well and have an impact. It is likely that in Year 3/4 class the dog will be joining the class itself so all parents will be asked to give consent in Puffins if this goes ahead.

What will happen if some parents don't agree?

- **Library Help**

Suggested that a request goes in The Reporter ( this has now been done) and on FOS letter and school newsletter. New parent volunteers asked at meeting today. There are already Year 4 monitors.

- **Next Meeting to take place on 1st March 2019 at 9 am at the school**

***We agreed to put this date in children's diary and include through eschools as a reminder to attend. Parents thanked us for doing this.***

### ***Other matters discussed and suggested questions and topics for next meeting.***

- *Audrey agreed to send an e mail to clarify the request for donations for Maths books as the first letter did not have a date and some parents thought it was not appropriate for children whose parents had paid had been given their books first.*

- *What are class dojos and how do they work? A letter has been written to explain Dojos and this will be shared along with the new behaviour policy once Governors have approved them.*
- *FOS purchasing school diaries or parents paying for them to release money for Maths books next academic year?*
- *FOS allocating small amount of money to each class?*
- *How can school, FOS and parents help promote the school to increase pupil numbers and therefore budget.*
- *Sign post on website to behaviour policy or simplified behaviour and sanctions flow chart so parents are more aware of how behaviour is managed within school. Maybe involve parent forum when behaviour policy is due for review so they can be more prepared when approached by parents who do not see or think anything is being done in school. A new behaviour policy has been written along with a summary for parents which will be put on the website once Governors have approved them.*
- *Meetings at the start of term with new teacher very helpful but could we have a meet the new teacher at the end of the Summer term to explain expectations particularly homework? FOS could provide coffee and recruit new members. Teachers could show finished examples of homework books etc. Homework generally liked as long as parents are made aware that holiday homework is optional. Parents liked the 'no homework' letter sent out with suggestions such as 'go for a walk and kick some leaves'. Encourage use of library rather than taking reading books home.*