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Autumn Term 1 - Parent Forum

Wednesday 27th September, 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

On Wednesday 27th September we held our first 'Parent Forum' in the staff room at 08:45am.

The Prince of Wales School Parent Forum is a half-termly opportunity to meet Headteacher Mr. Spracklen and other members of the Senior Leadership Team. It provides an informal platform to share concerns, discuss ideas and ask questions.

All members of our community are welcome.

See below for meeting notes and actions following our first meeting -

Notes and Actions -

GSp = Gary Spracklen (Headteacher) MBI = Maddie Biddlecombe (School Business Manager)

<p>1.0 - Concern raised that all Parent Forum dates were on at the same time and day.</p>	<p>GSp recognised concern. As dates have already been communicated for this year, decision has been made to stick with these to avoid confusion. In the summer term, SLT will consider appropriate timings for the 2018/2019 Parent Forum based on parental feedback.</p>
<p>2.0 - GSp provided presentation outlining the key priorities for the year ahead at the Prince of Wales School.</p> <p>These were to -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  Raise attainment and accelerate progress  Improve the quality of teaching and learning  Improve the conditions for learning  Develop the school as a professional learning community 	<p>Copy of the presentation will be made available on the school website.</p>
<p>3.0 - Parents requested a 'Parent Information Board' at the front of the school for key information to be shared</p>	<p>Board has been purchased and will be installed in the next two weeks.</p>

through this platform as well as online and via email.	
4.0 - Parents expressed the desire to have one place to access all information.	GSp confirmed that all information would come through Wednesday letters and that these would be archived on the school website for easy access.
5.0 - Parents raised issue of blogs not being consistent - i.e can't rely on them for reminders.	GSp outlined how blogs were an <i>additional</i> form of communication. They exist to provide a stronger link between home and school. Parents/carers should refer to the website for official dates and letters.
6.0 - Trip contributions were discussed and suggestion made that we ask for an annual trip contribution for trip below a certain cost.	GSp to discuss this idea with Senior Colleagues. MBI to run a trial with a small group of parents/carers.
7.0 - Discuss on amount of paperwork to be signed, can this be streamlined?	GSp to issue new 'local trips' permission slip to provide blanket coverage for trips across the local area.
8.0 - Discussion on Annual Forms such as the Home School Agreement and the Acceptable Usage Policy. Do these need signing every year? Could the language used be more accessible to younger children?	GSp to discuss this with Senior Colleagues.
9.0 - Discussion on sweets being given as rewards.	GSp will clarify position with all staff. Sweets should not be used as a reward. Stickers are more appropriate.
10.0 - Discussion on parents/carers sending in sweets for Birthdays. How is this managed.	GSp will monitor this. We need to find an appropriate balance here.
11.0 - Parental request for the ordering of pudding to be available.	MBi to review puddings being offered. MBI to take thought to Local Food Links (Hot Meal Provider).
12.0 - MB requested feedback on moving to online payments. Discussion on cost of systems being prohibitive and very complex.	Parents requested to volunteer to try direct payments into our bank account and via eschools and with a paypal account. Please see MBI.
13.0 - Issue with Ukulele lesson raised.	Same day letter sent to parents/carers. Matter resolved.
14.0 - Request to keep music provision in the school a high priority.	GSp shares desire to do this, Mrs S. Johnson (Year 4 Class Teacher) is now leading on Music Provision and is doing a fantastic job.
15.0 - Sport provision for KS1 requested. Historically this has been difficult to find qualified coaches.	Sports funding is increasing and this will be considered.
16.0 - Parents requested that KS1 were offered swimming too and that the possible use of the hydro pool for small groups to do this was explored.	GSp will look into this with Senior Colleagues but it is unlikely due to other curriculum pressures.
17.0 - Concern raised that current Y1 have missed out on a number of trips due to inclement weather.	GSp to monitor this.
Next meeting - Wednesday 1st November, 2017.	

PARENT FORUM - 08:45-09:30 - STAFF ROOM

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2017/2018 DATES

Autumn Term One - Wednesday 27th September, 2017
Autumn Term Two - Wednesday 1st November, 2017
Spring Term One - Wednesday 3rd January, 2018
Spring Term Two - Wednesday 21st February, 2018
Summer Term One - Wednesday 18th April, 2018
Summer Term Two - Wednesday 6th June, 2018