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...where we are all inspired to learn

Autumn Term 2 - Parent Forum

Wednesday 1st November, 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

On Wednesday 1st November we held our second '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 second meeting and **updates (in red)** from our first meeting -

Notes and Actions -

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

1.0 Guest Speaker - Caroline Morgan (CMo) - Chief Executive of Local Food Links (Hot Meals Provider)

CMo shared Government Food Guidelines and outlined the changes being made to support healthier hot school meals.

CMo outlined Local Food Links 'Social Enterprise' status and discussed the importance of local food providers.

CMo invited questions and comments from those parents and carers present. Discussion included -

- Sweet menu choices (50/50 fruit options)
- Two puddings a week are fruit options
- Pizza base topping (made with seven vegetables)
- Allergies and gluten free options
- Price of dairy - yogurt may not be on the menu in the future
- Sugar in puddings - reducing where possible
- The importance of a balanced diet

GSp shared Come Dine with Me opportunities which provide parents and carers the chance to come in and eat a hot meal alongside their child.

Our next 'Come Dine with Me' event will be for Year 3 parents and carers on **Monday 27th November, 2017**. Letter to follow.

<p>2.0 - UPDATE - 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>UPDATE - As above.</p>
<p>3.0 - UPDATE - 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>UPDATE - Copy of presentation is on the website. School Development Plan will also be provided in the same 'Parent Forum' area of the website.</p>
<p>4.0 - UPDATE - Parents requested a 'Parent Information Board' at the front of the school for key information to be shared through this platform as well as online and via email.</p>	<p>Board has been purchased and will be installed in the next two weeks.</p> <p>UPDATE - Board is being used on an adhoc basis, GSp seeking a long term solution.</p>
<p>5.0 - UPDATE - Parents expressed the desire to have one place to access all information.</p>	<p>GSp confirmed that all information would come through Wednesday letters and that these would be archived on the school website for easy access.</p> <p>UPDATE - This is happening.</p>
<p>6.0 - UPDATE - Parents raised issue of blogs not being consistent - i.e can't rely on them for reminders.</p>	<p>GSp outlined how blogs were an <i>additional</i> form of communication. They exist to provider a stronger link between home and school. Parents/carers should refer to the website for official dates and letters.</p> <p>UPDATE - GSp has been monitoring blogs and welcomes further parent feedback.</p>
<p>7.0 - UPDATE - Trip contributions were discussed and suggestion made that we ask for an annual trip contribution for trip below a certain cost.</p>	<p>GSp to discuss this idea with Senior Colleagues. MBI to run a trial with a small group of parents/carers.</p> <p>UPDATE - Volunteers welcome for trial. Please see GSp.</p>
<p>8.0 - UPDATE - Discuss on amount of paperwork to be signed, can this be streamlined?</p>	<p>GSp to issue new 'local trips' permission slip to provider blanket coverage for trips across the local area.</p> <p>UPDATE - Slip was issued following meeting.</p>

<p>9.0 - UPDATE - 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?</p>	<p>GSp to discuss this with Senior Colleagues.</p> <p>UPDATE - Discussions ongoing, intention remains to review before next year.</p>
<p>10.0 - UPDATE - Discussion on sweets being given as rewards.</p>	<p>GSp will clarify position with all staff. Sweets should not be used as a reward. Stickers are more appropriate.</p> <p>UPDATE - Action closed.</p>
<p>11.0 - UPDATE - Discussion on parents/carers sending in sweets for Birthdays. How is this managed.</p>	<p>GSp will monitor this. We need to find an appropriate balance here.</p> <p>UPDATE - Discussions ongoing. GSp will be taking this matter to Governors.</p>
<p>12.0 - UPDATE - Parental request for the ordering of pudding to be available.</p>	<p>MBi to review puddings being offered. MBi to take thought to Local Food Links (Hot Meal Provider).</p> <p>UPDATE - CMO attended today's meeting and addressed these points as stated above.</p>
<p>13.0 - UPDATE - MB requested feedback on moving to online payments. Discussion on cost of systems being prohibitive and very complex.</p>	<p>Parents requested to volunteer to try direct payments into our bank account and via eschools and with a paypal account. Please see MBi.</p> <p>UPDATE - Volunteers welcome for trial. Please see GSp.</p>
<p>14.0 - UPDATE - Issue with Ukulele lesson raised.</p>	<p>Same day letter sent to parents/carers. Matter resolved.</p> <p>UPDATE - Action closed.</p>
<p>15.0 - UPDATE - Request to keep music provision in the school a high priority.</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>UPDATE - Action closed.</p>
<p>16.0 - UPDATE - Sport provision for KS1 requested. Historically this has been difficult to find qualified coaches.</p>	<p>Sports funding is increasing and this will be considered.</p> <p>UPDATE - This remains a key priority and plans are in place to increase provision from January 2018. More information to follow.</p>
<p>17.0 - UPDATE - 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.</p>	<p>GSp will look into this with Senior Colleagues but it is unlikely due to other curriculum pressures.</p> <p>UPDATE - This option has been explored but is not practical with current restraints on time, resource and most importantly curriculum.</p>
<p>18.0 - UPDATE - Concern raised that current Y1 have missed out on a number of trips due to inclement weather.</p>	<p>GSp to monitor this.</p> <p>UPDATE - Ongoing</p>

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