



## St. Anne's C.E. (VC) Primary School

"Together with God, Making Learning a Life Long Friend"

# PARENT FORUM MEETING

THURSDAY, 22<sup>nd</sup> NOVEMBER 2018

## A G E N D A

1. **Present:** Mrs Whiting (Daisy (R), Evie (2) and Ethan (3)), Mrs Lambert (Heidi (3) and Alfie (5) ), Mrs Dale (Gregory (R) and Patrick (2)), Barbara Owen (Daniel (3)), Mrs Verney (Nathan (5)), Mrs Fereday (Harry (5)), Mr and Mrs Edwards Rowley (Tyler-John (R)) and Mrs Anderson - Palmer (Governor, Lucia (1) and James (5)) , Mr Martin (Amelia (5) and Governor), Mrs Pope (Ellie (4) and Ben (6)) and Aimee Rosson
2. **Apologies:** No Apologies
3. **Parent Pay:** Discussed that will be using Parent Pay from April. All school dinners and trips will only be payable online. This service will be available in the school office. Cashless except for toast. Mr Martin discussed how this was used in his school and is a good way to spread out the cost of trips so you can pay the deposit and then you can pay it off. It was also discussed how you could put a set amount of money on it and then this could be used if the children have hot dinners.
4. **School Photographs Quality:** The general discussion was that parents did not like them this year and lots of the parents had not ordered them. The cost of the photographs was also discussed about how expensive they are and that they might not want them to be so big. Parents suggested using a Local Photographer many names were discussed during the meeting. We agreed that a letter should go out to ask if there is anyone who knows anyone who would be able to take the photographs of the children. Another issue of the photographs was discussed that are the children rushed through could it not be extended to take two days. Mrs Anderson - Palmer discussed how we do not want to take the children out of learning for the photographs. Another suggestion was looking at the location of where the photographs are taken perhaps the library as some of the children may not like having their photograph taken in such a big place.
5. **Afternoon Break:** We discussed how the afternoon break has become less rigid. This brought up the conversation about if children are being allowed to go to the toilet

during lesson time as some children are not being allowed to go to the toilet before afternoon break. The finishing time was discussed and the parents wanted to know why there was a need to finish earlier. It was discussed about having a staggered finish. Lots of parents were not wanting the end of the school day finishing time to change. However, this would perhaps elevate some of the parking issues that are taken place outside school. Could some of the children with Mr Hobson go outside at the end of school and discuss about is this appropriate for the parents to park here? A initiative in Stoke On Trent Schools has been introduced in teaching the children to use a speed camera to see if there were speeding outside of school. The yellow lines on New Lane need to be extended they are not reaching the gates. Has a PSO been around the area? They haven't been seen for a while could this be done in the afternoon rather than the morning. Another suggestion was for the children to design a parking ticket that they go out and put on windscreens if they are not parked in appropriate areas. Mrs Pope discussed how she was going to get a fire engine to come up to show parents that emergency vehicles cannot get through.

6. **Lunchtime:** Lunchtime was not on the agenda but a lot of the discussion was surrounding lunch time. It was discussed that lots of the children are refused to go to the toilet during lunchtime. What is the policy about the children bringing water bottles out? Miss Rosson discussed how Key Stage 1 tend to put the water bottles out on the playground. Mrs Owen said this needs to be remembered all the time as it is not always done. Miss Rosson discussed how it was the Key Stage 2 childrens' responsibility to take their water bottle out. Parents discussed that the children will just get their water bottles and then come out. Miss Rosson and Mr Martin said sometimes that the children stay in a little longer than they should be doing. From the safeguarding part of the agenda this came out from discussion. How many of the Lunchtime supervisors are trained Paediatric trained? Do all members of the lunchtime team know about medical issues and do all members of staff know about children that have medical issues? Are all lunchtime supervisors able to do their job effectively? From a previous meeting it was discussed that there was a questionnaire that did highlight that lunchtimes were an issue. Is it always appropriate how the lunchtime supervisors speak to the children - as this shows a lack of respect and that a Code of Conduct needs to be adhered to. It was pointed out about the Golden Rules but a lot of the Golden Rules were adhered to by some of the lunchtime supervisors.
7. **Holiday Club:** Introducing a holiday club using Premier Sports was discussed and parents agreed this was a good idea. However, it was voiced by a parent that Premier Sports should not be used as they used to work with them and they did not train or support them properly. It was also suggested does it have to be sports is there other companies out there to do Holiday clubs and the amount of money it will cost to do it?
8. **Marking of Homework** - Parents discussed how they feel that a stamp is not always sufficient for marking their homework. Some parents felt that some of the homework was not even acknowledged. Parents feel like a little note about what they like and what they could improve on would be helpful There is a lack of consistency between classes about whether or not spellings are marked some year groups are marking them and some year groups are not marking them. Also the spellings that are being introduced to the children are they being introduced and explained the meaning of the words. Are some of the words always appropriate and could lead to some leading questions for parents. Some of the handwriting in the marking is sometimes a little hard to read could this not be typed in to make it easier for parents to read them.

Also the grid activity that is part of the spelling homework could these not be made bigger as not all the words fit in to the different box. It was discussed about the 2simple evidence used in Early Years if this could be done higher up in the school. There was a leaflet that went out to parents about Exemplar Education - What was this about? Parents felt that the children were being targeted that their children need more support. Mr. Martin explained what it was and it was suggested that perhaps this could be put on the Newsletter so that parents know it has not come from the school. We discussed about the different type of homework and Mr. Hobson sending out a consultation letter about how parents would like to see homework (this could be a more topic homework or a selection of ten activities that they have to do 4 or 5 each half term).

#### 9. AOB:

- **Calendar** - Can this be updated on teachers2parents app? Parents are aware it is on the website but could this also be put on the app?
- **Letters** - It was discussed how it is little excessive how parents with siblings get the same letters. If trip letters are going out could parents be informed that there is a trip letter going out as children think they are just able to go on trips even if they are very expensive. It was suggested putting these types of letters in envelopes. However, Mrs Anderson Palmer discussed how this is not the most appropriate way to spend the schools money. The Liverpool trip was mentioned about how expensive it was and if not all parents could afford to take them would it be cancelled. This then led to the voluntary contribution where Mr Martin discussed the voluntary contribution for trips and discussed how Parents Pay in the future will mean that parents can spread out the cost which could help. The timings of letters that go out could these be done earlier so parents know that there is a cost of the trip rather than it being in two weeks. It was also discussed that the cost of trips are split between the amount of the children in the class and the PTFA support with the cost of the trips by paying for the buses. It was discussed how getting more members on the PTFA could help get more money so that trips could cost less.
- **Extra -Curricular after school:** Do Reception have the opportunity to have any after school activities ? Miss Rosson discussed how this is something that is not introduced in the autumn term but later in the year the children have the opportunity to come to some clubs.
- **PTFA/ Christmas Fayre** - Could there be a group on social media perhaps for the parents to be involved in so that discussions can take place?
- **Christmas** - Are there too many activities to be done during the Christmas Period? Are there Christmas parties and Discos for every year group? It was discussed in Key Stage 1 that a magic man comes and then they have a disco which is voluntary to come. Key Stage 2 they have their own parties and a voluntary Disco that they can come to?
- **Twitter and Facebook account** - It was discussed how the school do so many good things but are not always seen. This has especially been highlighted when there has been a residential trip could these be shown off to parents and other schools using a twitter or a closed comment facebook group. Mrs Whiting would be willing to undertake this role. This led to a conversation about after residential trips could there be an assembly or presentation evening to show off what they have done. Some parents felt they had no idea what went on at the residential.

- **Government STEM activities:** As a school do we feed or use the STEM activities? Could this be done where they could get people in to enrich the curriculum?
- **Policies** - Can the website be highlighted more on the newsletter to make sure that the parents all know about the different policies on the website? At the New Parents Meeting to discuss about all the policies being on the website. Also to have a paper copy of the policies in the Main Reception so parents are aware or the parents who do not have internet access to have access to them in the school.
- **Staff** - Parents did discuss how they are aware that the staff are good but sometimes we need to make sure that how children are spoken to shows respect.

10. **Health + Safety:** It was highlighted that parents were concerned about the playground this morning as it was slippery and lots of the children fell over in the morning. It was commented that on the Key Stage 1 playground the big area near the tree normally has a puddle or was frozen. Could this be stopped so the children do not jump in the puddle.

11. **Safeguarding:** This was more regarding lunchtime. Is there enough members of staff that are First Aid trained and Paediatric First Aid trained.



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