

Parents Forum

Present:

Apologies from - Mrs Rothwell, Mrs Smith, Miss Anderton

Staff: Mrs Whalley, Mrs Waterworth, Mrs Bate

Governors: Mrs Smith - apologies

Parent Governors:, Mrs Smyth, Mrs Aspinall,

Parents/carers:, Miss Briody, Miss Fairhurst

Overview of the meeting:

- Mrs Whalley welcomed a new Reception parent member - Miss Tevgenia
- Mrs Whalley said that the provisional date for the Summer Fayre has now been change to Saturday 25th June from 12pm-3pm. Stalls will be open to parents and the local community. If anyone would like a stall they should inform the school office. It was agreed that a stall would cost £10 but all profits would then be their own. Mrs Waterworth would arrange for a text to be sent out parents. Mrs Waterworth and Mrs Bate asked parents if they would like to help out again, and any other help from parents is greatly welcomed. Parents said they would give out letters to food restaurants, Halfords etc. to see if would get some prizes again for raffle prizes.
- Discussion about different activities which could be at the Summer Fayre. It was agreed that Karen would look into Bouncy Castle's, other said they may be able to get a Sweet Stand for us to use. Suggestions of face painting, sponge throwing, and Arts and Crafts etc. were discussed. We would look into what food and refreshments should be sold also, whether we should have a Barbeque or sell hotdogs. It was agreed that parents could look into prices etc. and get to Mrs Bate or Mrs Waterworth. The group would reconvene at a later date to finalise what stalls and activities would be confirmed. A suggestion about having a stall where there were different reptiles and animals for children to look at. Mrs Bate and Miss Fairhurst would look into this.
- Mrs Waterworth would contact the Fire Brigade to see if they could attend. She would also speak to the local Community Police Officers.
- Mrs Whalley talked about the Parent Questionnaire which was given out during parents evening. The feedback was very positive. There was some feedback from parents given about Afterschool Clubs and parents having more information on ways to best support their children. Some parents felt there should be more clubs on offer. The forum parents mostly felt that there was a wide variety of clubs on offer, they recognised that staff provide these clubs in their own time. Mrs Whalley said that the clubs currently on offer are provided free of charge because they are run by staff, school could look into other clubs and activities for children to access but they may need to charge as they would be provided by external providers. At the moment the Elite Clubs are payed for by school. Mrs Whalley wanted to listen to the feedback and see if school could come up with some ideas on how we could improve this. Miss Fairhurst suggested contacting the local rugby club, Leigh Centurions, to see if they

provide any afterschool clubs to schools. Mrs Waterworth would look into this. Miss Briody felt that there wasn't enough clubs on offer to Reception children. Mrs Whalley explained that in the Autumn Term Reception do not access clubs due to being new to school and adjusting to the long days, they are often very tired. Mrs Bate explained that this year there have been more clubs on offer to Reception than in previous years. Mrs Bate said homework club had more popular this year, Miss Fairhurst said Scooter Club was popular – Mrs Bate explained that school don't have many scooters and a number of children didn't always bring scooters, Miss Fairhurst suggested perhaps loaning some from a man in Wigan who has dealings with Howe Bridge Skate Park.

- Mrs Whalley explained that next academic year school would be arranging for us to have a School Football and Netball Team. This would be an afterschool and lunchtime activity and would really help us when we enter competitions.
- Following on from the Parent Questionnaire, Mrs Whalley asked parents what they would like to see so that they can support their children. Mrs Whalley asked if parents would like to have an open evening where they can drop in to have a chat with the teacher and see their work – perhaps around May time? Would new Reception parents benefit from seeing the new teacher in the first half of the Autumn Term, so they could see how their children have settled. Parents felt this was a good idea and they would like the opportunity to do this.
- Mrs Whalley shared the new format for end of year reports for this year. As Levels have now gone we have made some changes (the first draft layout was shared with parents). Changes would only affect Y1 – Y6 as Reception children have the EYFS. As part of the report children would be consulted about what next steps they need to achieve to move forward. Parents liked this on the report and the idea of getting the children involved. Parents said the layout was simple and to the point. Parents were happy with the wording *"needs improvement, satisfactory etc."*
- Miss Hill had lead on the Read Write Inc workshop. Mrs Whalley asked parents if there were any other workshops which they felt they needed. Parent who attended the e safety sessions felt they were well, informed and learned things they didn't know such as Google for children etc. Parents said they would like a workshop on the terminology we use in school e.g. number bonds, phonics etc. Not all parents know what the terminology means so they find it sometimes difficult to help their children. Mrs Whalley would arrange this.
- Mrs Whalley updated that the Library has now been moved from the hall to the old staff room. She asked if any parents would like to volunteer to help finish it off. Displays need to be put up but we would also welcome volunteers to listen to readers or support children to change their books. Mrs Aspinall volunteered for afternoon sessions. Suggestions about Word Searches & Book Reviews were made.

AOB

- Mrs Smyth asked for some road safety work to be done in school following the accident near school this week. Mrs Waterworth would contact the police about doing an assembly workshop with Y4, Y5 and Y6.
- Parents said some parents still parking on double yellows. A suggestion that school would benefit from having a railing on our side of the road after the bus stop. Mrs

Waterworth said that PC Les had mentioned in the past that he may be able to arrange training for any parent lollipop volunteers if people are interested.

- Questions were asked about having free snack provided to all school children. Lots of parents pay for snack, but some don't. At Bedford Hall snack is provided free of charge. Miss Fairhurst said that sometimes children say there is no snack left when they go to get some. Mrs Whalley will look in to this. Suggestions were made about having toast. Mrs Whalley said that school would probably need volunteers for this, but Mrs Whalley would make some enquiries.
- Parents asked if other parents can join the parent forum group. Mrs Whalley was happy for new members to join. Mrs Waterworth will arrange for a text to be sent out prior to the next meeting on Wednesday 13th July.

Next meeting is on Wednesday 13th July at 9am in school. Any new parents wanting to attend then please notify the school office in advance