



Parent Forum

Meeting Minutes – Tuesday 30th January @ 3:30 pm

People Invited: Mrs. Dean, Miss Peeks, Mrs. Palmer, Modu Lumami, Sandra Pauza, Meriam Militi, Sajad Janjua, Sayeda Farjana Tabassum, Beenish Waqas, Aji Pramod, Bushra Khalid, Tehzeeb Moazzam, Jayson Moses, Ruben Murmu.

People Attended:

Mrs. Dean (FD), Miss Peeks (IP), Mrs. Palmer (CP), Modu Lumami (ML), Sandra Pauza (SP), Meriam Militi (MM), Sajad Janjua (SJ), Sayeda Farjana Tabassum (SFT)

Apologies:

Aji Pramod

Welcome and Introductions

- FD warmly welcomed parents and thanked them for attending.

Clarify purpose of meetings and agreed ground rules

- Parent representatives act as spokesperson for their child's year group/class.
- Representatives speak to other parents about their views and report back at forum meetings.
- Parent forum is not for raising individual issues.

Safeguarding in school

- Parent Representatives given an information leaflet on Child Protection and Safeguarding at St Chrysostom's Primary School.
- FD highlighted that all those that come into contact with children, are responsible for their own actions and behaviour and that as a school, we have a duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of all our children.
- FD then asked Parent Representatives about their understanding of Safeguarding.
- ML commented that, as he works within the NHS, he has a clear understanding that all staff working in schools have a responsibility to safeguard children.
- FD then asked if Parent Representatives were clear on the difference between safeguarding and child protection.
- FD went on to explain that Child Protection consists of 4 elements of abuse (neglect/ physical/ emotional and sexual abuse) pointing out that, If a child is at risk of any of those elements of abuse, then it is her job as Safeguarding lead at St Chrysostom's' to oversee this.
- FD also reassured Parent Representatives that all staff and volunteers at St Chrysostom's Primary school go through a safer recruitment process and require a DBS check.
- ML added that, he understands that DBS checks are a legal requirement.
- He then asked if Parent helpers who accompany class trips are DBS checked.
- FD explained that school trips are slightly different because, although we do ask parents to come along, a parent would **never** be left alone with a child or asked to escort children to the toilet without another DBS checked member of staff.



Homework

- FD pointed out that homework has been raised in several Parent Forum Meetings throughout 2017 (May, July and October) and no issues were raised. Questionnaires were sent out to year 1 and 2 parents in January 2018. Overall feedback was generally very positive; the only comment from a small number of parents was that they would like more homework.
- Parent Representatives agreed that they too would like more homework.
- FD commented that she understands that a lot of parents do enjoy getting involved with their child/ children's homework and we fully appreciate their support, however we do promote a level of independence as weekly homework is mainly a reinforcement of what has been taught in school.
- ML stated that he has spoken to school teachers regarding the content of homework, in which he was reassured that homework is not aimed at parent solely teaching their child something new and agreed that he too was told that the content of homework is usually a reinforcement.

After School Provisions

- FD sent out a letter regarding afterschool care from years 1-6 (reception/ nursery were not included due to the child to adult ratios and the fact that it would be a very long day for early years.)
- Across the school from year 1 to 6, we received 15 replies in total, 7 of which wanted full time.
- As this reflects a very small percentage of our pupils, the afterschool provision will not be going ahead.
- FD confirmed that she will be writing to formally notify parents of this decision.
- SJ explained that he had been emailed by another parent about after school provisions which he then forwarded to IP.
- SJ and other Parent Representatives agreed that they thought there would have been more demand for after school provisions.
- SJ suggested that it may be worthwhile sending out a letter again at the end of term to reassess the demand for after school provision. He mentioned that some parents, like himself, may already have childcare arrangements in place, but would perhaps consider using an after school provision at St Chrysostom's in the future.

Nursery query

- FD raised an issue which was emailed to the Parent Forum regarding Nursery Parents giving gifts to children at the end of the day.
- SP mentioned that some parents are constantly bringing large gifts for their child at the end of the school day. SP stressed that she total understands that parents like to buy their children gifts however, when they are rather large gifts and being given on school premises in front of other children, it can cause other children to become upset.
- SJ agreed that this does happen and has witnessed it on several occasions.
- ML asked if there is there a policy on this.
- FD confirmed that there is not a policy on parents buying and giving gifts to their children at the end of the day.
- ML then asked if parents can bring things in for birthdays.
- SFT commented that there was a letter given out last year regarding this issue which stated that small treats were welcomed, however parents were asked to avoid bringing party bags or large cakes.



AOB

- SFT suggested English and Maths workshops for parents.
- SJ agreed that this would be a good idea, stating that small workshops did take place in the past and were really helpful for parents, especially in preparation for SATs.

Actions

- Report outcomes of homework survey to governors.
- Nursery staff to speak to parent concerned regarding large gifts.
- Parent workshops to be arranged, predominantly for year 2 and 6 which will most likely take place after half term.

Date of next meeting

- Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday 24th April @ 3.30pm

Meeting ended at 4pm