

Minutes of Pixmore Parent Forum Wednesday 15th November 2017

Present:	Kath West	- Governor (SEND focus)
	Sue Willans	- SENCo
	Anne Marie Kennedy	- Family Support Worker
	Alejandro Zullo-Avila	- Parent
	Jeanette Mooney	- Grandparent
	Daryl Heath	- Parent
	Ruth Mann	- Parent
	Caroline Nicholson	- parent

Agenda:

- Parent questionnaire
- Puberty and when this is taught in school

Thank you to all who attended; your views matter, and we always take them seriously.

Parent Liaison school councillors, Nana and George, introduced themselves to parents present and helped to serve refreshments. Thank you to Nana and George for their help.

Parent Questionnaire:

Sue shared the analysis of responses to the questionnaires completed at parent's evening, and asked for ideas and comments on the areas highlighted.

Responses:

- Parents would like teachers to provide a weekly blog of what the children have been learning as this helps them to talk with their children about what they have been learning at school and support their children's learning
- Half-termly curriculum map with some detail as to what the children will be learning ahead of each half term start so that they can support their children further by taking them to museum, for example, to enhance their learning. One parent said that it would be nice to be able to ask their child about things they know they will be learning e.g. they have been learning about plant life cycles this half term. The weekly blogs would give more specific details about what the children have done on a week by week basis
- Parents find the calculation methods confusing as they try to show their children methods they are familiar with, but the children then tell them they have been taught a different method

Action: Could teachers provide an example of the required method when calculation homework is set?

Action: Sue informed parents that English and Maths co-ordinators are planning information evenings for parents to support them with helping their children at home

Action: SLT discussion about the issues raised

- Parents noted that homework completed is marked, but just with a tick and comment, but no feedback for improvement. One parent noted that when she highlights areas for improvement to her child, she says that her teachers haven't commented, which then makes it difficult to support her child
- Parents noted that doors are now opening at 8:40 on Fridays following comments passed about late opening previously owing to teachers having a short diary meeting. One parent commented that doors do still sometimes open late on other days, making it extremely difficult for her to get her daughter to Hillshott on time. The close start times of both schools is still creating problems for some parents getting their children to the two schools on time. One parent noted that comments relating to parking outside school in school newsletters do not acknowledge the difficulties in getting children to the two schools and that she has to decide which child has to be late each day
- Sue noted that teachers will not let children in Year 3 and 4 go at the end of the day until they are collected by a parent
- One parent asked for clarification about when children are allowed to walk to and from school on their own. Sue noted that children are allowed to go home on their own in Years 5 and 6 and that some children in Year 4 also do so, but generally in agreement with parents
- Sue noted that there has previously been a walking bus between the two schools, which many parents found helpful. Two parents volunteered to help with this – Sue to discuss with Mrs Evans and Mrs Leighton to see whether this is feasible

Action: Sue to discuss issues raised with Mrs Evans and SLT

Puberty:

- Sue shared updated advice about puberty from the PSHE Association and asked parents for their comments
- Parents present commented that they would be happy for information to be shared with pupils at Pixmore from Year 3 and felt that it is up to the school to decide when to teach about it – the earlier the better as this is something that will affect all children and early information can prevent confusion and misinformation
- Sue explained that puberty is currently taught in Year 5 and sex education in Year 6. The children are shown a video on sex education in Year 6, which parents are able to view ahead of their children seeing it
- Parents agreed to take information given out at the meeting home and comment via email. They would be willing to watch the video and give their views on this too

Action: Any comments received to be shared with Mrs Evans and SLT to determine whether any changes need to be made to current practice regards the teaching of puberty. Parents to be given the opportunity to watch video and comment – Sue to organise.