

Minutes of Pixmore Parent Forum Friday 17th July 2015

Present:

Tracy Coates	- Parent
Rachel Toddington	- Parent
Mrs. A. Mann	- Parent
Mrs. Heath	- Parent
Mrs. Welbourn	- Parent
Jessica West	- Parent (Child at Hillshott currently)
Daniel Chandler	- Parent (Child at Hillshott currently)
Fay Mclean-Chandler	- Parent (Child at Hillshott currently)
Anne-Marie Kennedy	- Family Support Worker
Sue Willans	- SENCo

Apologies: Kath West – SEN Governor

Agenda:

- Welcome and introductions
- Website – try it out and feedback
- Forum for next year – what do you want?
- Transition this year – your views on transition day

The Year 6 School Councillors joined the group to introduce themselves and talk about what they do. They then supported parents in accessing the website and looking at the content of the website. This is what they said:

Website:

Question	Response
How easy was it to find our website?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Very easy – comes up as a suggested page and is top of Google search page.• Easy• Very easy• Very easy to find but internet slow in school. Wouldn't let us move the page up or down. Looks like new computers might be needed or internet speed looked at.• Very easy – first thing on Google search• Easy• Very easy• Easy
Give you opinion on the layout of the site	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• It's changed recently and is much clearer and brighter.• Bit busy• It's very good

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good layout, but I would like to be able to see pictures of teachers and teaching assistants, and find out who is attached to each class as I don't always know who the support staff my children talk about are. • It would be nice to have a contact email for class teachers. • Fine – easy to look at • Very good • Parent Forum should be under a different heading other than SEN as it's not just SEN parents that need to attend. • All school letters should be under the same tab • A bit 'clumsy'
<p>How easy was it to navigate the different parts of the website?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very easy – nice clear layout • Not easy for people who aren't computer literate • Fine • Very easy • Very easy • Easy • Yes – okay to navigate, but not completely logical. • Easy
<p>How useful is the information on the website?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I have always found everything I need, and everything I have looked for. • Very • Very easy because I can look at newsletters I haven't received. • Very useful • Very • Very informative • Year 4 camping trip pictures have a tab but there are no pictures so not very useful • Very good
<p>What information do you find particularly useful?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calendar, especially when it actually matches what is happening. • Newsletters and photos • Term dates on home page • Wise Pay • School dinner menu • Able to pay online • The term dates and being able to use Wisepay • Term times • Love the sport!!
<p>Is there anything you would like added to the website?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would be nice to see more class work photos • No • No • More pictures regarding awards the children get.

Any other comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lovely friendly school council – make sure they are rewarded for being such great ambassadors and for their help. • More text messages please – especially confirming dress-down days – before 8.30a.m. on the day. • Blogs need updating more frequently or removing. • The latest news and blogs tend to all be about sport. Maybe people with 100% attendance or other interests could be included. Maybe success in Art club or Gardening Club just to be a bit more inclusive.
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Forum for next year – what do you want?

- Parents present were happy with the times and dates this year and would be happy for this to stay the same. They prefer holding the meetings in the school hall.
- It's good to have lots of notice of when the meetings are taking place and to vary the times occasionally, although first thing in the morning is best.
- Parents like having the occasional external visitor, and would like this to continue.
- Topics are of interest and relevant and they will think of any useful themes to suggest for after the holidays.

Transition Day – sharing experiences

Parents present felt that all their children had enjoyed the day and the range of activities.

The following points were noted:

Year 2 transition day:

- Comprehensive information pack
- My child came home 'buzzing' from the day
- My child enjoyed it, but she did talk a lot about school rules and how teachers spoke a lot about these. My child was okay with this, but it did feel a bit rule heavy.
- When I took my child to the hall, there was a teacher with stickers with the childrens' names on them, but it would have been useful to have someone on the door just handing out stickers and greeting children and parents as I wasn't sure what to do.
- The Year 6 girl talking to me told me all about how the children choose their meal in the morning and wear wrist bands so that the cook knows what they have chosen. I didn't know this, and my daughter didn't know either, so it would be useful to have this information in the parent pack. Also, I didn't know there was a packed lunch school meal option.
- There was some confusion about where to collect children at the end of the day. The letter said drop off and collect from the hall, but we were told on the day that we should collect from the Year 3 classroom. We didn't mind either way but just needed to know.
- We had different messages from Pixmore and Hillshott about the school dinner so I wasn't sure whether they were having school dinner or should have a packed lunch.

Transition between classes:

- My child didn't seem to know what was happening on transition day and so wasn't sure whether to go to his old or new classrooms.
- It was good knowing which teacher my child would have earlier this year.
- They enjoyed transition day.

Additional Comments:

- Parents present like the new report format and feel it is easy to follow and is informative.
- Parents asked whether there could be a sale of used clothes and lost property at the end of term to raise extra funds for school.
- SW showed parents a presentation on the new school smart phone APP designed by Mr. Dock. Comments were very positive and all felt that the APP would be very useful and informative and said they would use it.
- Parents really like receiving text messages but would like more, especially informing them that children have arrived at destinations on school trips and about things like dress-down days as some children don't tell their parents about this and a reminder would be useful.

SW clarified some of the points raised and said she would feed back to Mrs. Evans on areas for development.

Next Parent Forum: tba