

Parent Forum

Wednesday 5 June 7:00pm

Agenda

| | |
|---|--|
| 1 | <p>Welcome and any apologies</p> <p>Present: Hannah F, Emma P, Sarah CJ, Joanne F, Tiffany R, Michelle C, Helen B, Helen E, Laura B, Kerry M, Caroline C.</p> <p>Apologies: Katharine I, Marie M, Karen FM, Helen G.</p> |
| 2 | <p>Issues raised by classes</p> <p>Acorn – After School Club arrangements, fees and 30 hours applications for new parents The information was sent out yesterday.</p> <p>Oak – non-attendance at lunchtime clubs We have discussed this before but some parents have reported that it is still a problem. Some children don't hear the call and some are choosing not to go (in one case hiding in toilets) because they want to continue to play. Teachers usually feedback to parents when their children do not want to go to a club. We will try and do this more.</p> <p>Maple – no issues raised</p> <p>Beech – no issues raised</p> <p>Cedar – gifts for teachers – what is school view?</p> <p>Our feeling is that we don't expect presents for teachers, we leave it to parents to decide whether they would like to offer these. Our teachers appreciate the way it is managed at Victoria i.e. whole class collection where parents can contribute as much or as little as they choose, with no pressure to contribute at all. There is still scope for parents to opt out of collections and/or to offer an individual gift. Sensitivity and discretion are key and if parents are happy with the current arrangement so is the school.</p> <p>Play leaders at playtime – has this stopped?</p> <p>The play leaders did not run activities on Monday and Tuesday of this week because they were at the castle one day and Mrs Channer</p> |

| | |
|---|---|
| | <p>wasn't available to supervise the children on the other day. Normal service was resumed today.</p> <p>Hazel – no issues raised</p> |
| 3 | <p>AOB</p> <p>Feedback on school lunches for nursery children</p> <p>CC meets with Elaine Brown Herts Catering Manager once a term. She asked if we would consider offering lunches to our Nursery which is why CC asked for parent feedback. There were at least 15 positive responses from current or prospective nursery parents. In answer to the questions raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not all nursery children staying for lunch have to have a school lunch, they may still bring their own packed lunch. • All nursery children will sit together in the dining hall. • Nursery lunchtime will continue to start at 11.30am. • Children are only asked to stop eating at 12.00 if they are being collected at that time. This might be an issue to consider as 30 minutes would not be long enough to take all the children to and from the dining room and eat lunch. Most children who have lunch in nursery stay for the afternoon, but any who don't might need to be picked up at 12.15 instead of 12.00 if school lunches are introduced. <p>As there has been some interest, CC will ask other Berkhamsted head teachers if they offer their nursery children school lunches and continue to investigate the logistical arrangements needed. If lunches are to be offered to nursery children there might be a two-week trial before the end of this term, with a view to rolling it out in January 2020, when new children in nursery and reception have had time to settle into the lunchtime routine.</p> <p>Other AOB:</p> <p>There's never any gravy left for Year 1. CC will talk to the kitchen staff.</p> <p>Emma P wanted to say that nursery parents and children love the new playground (which was funded by the diocese). The windows however are rather dirty following the work. CC will arrange to have them cleaned.</p> |

| | |
|---|--|
| | <p>Hannah F asked, as an eco-school, how do we feel about the number of plastic badges awarded to children for walking to school? LB explained that these have now been stopped.</p> <p>Helen E suggested introducing a walking bus to reduce traffic near the school. These are usually run by parent volunteers. CC will raise it with other Berkhamsted headteachers to see how/if they run walking buses. Ursula Keywood runs a paying walking bus to take TC siblings from Victoria to TC after drop-off at 8:30am.</p> <p>How are new class reps appointed? Through the WhatsApp chat and word of mouth. This system is led by the VSA.</p> <p>Parent Forum next year – CC thanked everyone for their attendance and contributions this year. She asked whether they felt it should continue to run next year. All said yes and all were happy to continue as reps. Any members not present, please let CC know if you would like to carry on next year so that if necessary she can recruit new reps. School will ensure new parents are told about PF and how it works as it has been a valuable additional communication channel between school and parents.</p> <p>Breakfast club is going very well. They now have quite high demand for September and are looking to recruit additional staff.</p> |
| 4 | <p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>TBA</p> |