

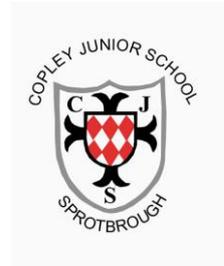


Copley Junior School

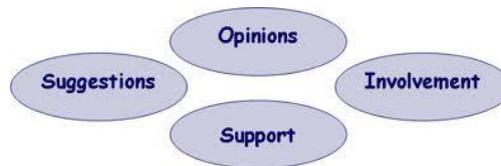
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Head teacher Mrs. E.A. Crayton



Parent Forum



Parent Forum Minutes

31st March 2017 from 2.15-3.15pm

Present:

Mrs Ryder

Mrs Smith

Mrs Case

Mrs Jones

Mrs Norton

Mrs Kirk

Apologies - Mrs Wales, Mrs Holdsworth

AGENDA ITEM 1 - Parent Forum members were welcomed to the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 2 - Minutes of the previous meeting of 10.2.17 were discussed.

Matters arising:

- There had been positive feedback from the spring term parent workshops on assessment, with 87 parents attending over the six sessions.
- E.A. Crayton reported that she had attended an information session run by the Local Authority regarding the possibility of a funded



opportunity to join an online learning platform. From the information gained so far, this would give opportunity for children who wish to undertake additional home learning and online videos provide mini tutorials regarding subject content to support learning at home. Teachers can also set class tasks via the system. Parent Forum members felt this merited further research and recognised that many children enjoy online learning.

- The minutes of 10.2.17 were approved.
- **ACTION 1** - School to investigate further the LA online learning opportunity to enhance home learning provision.
- **ACTION 2** - EC to post minutes on the website and signpost parents to Parent Forum minutes and agendas via the weekly newsletter.

AGENDA ITEM 3 - Discussion regarding how school and parents can work together to promote enjoyment in reading. Actions taken so far and next steps. E.A. Crayton shared a number of strategies that the school had introduced to develop provision including:

- New themed collection - 'Magic' books. Titles had been chosen to widen children's knowledge of different authors and 65 titles were chosen. Children encouraged to read and share a brief comment on a slip inside the plastic book cover. E.A. Crayton reported that this had been popular and the books had received many 'reads'.
- The Book Swap idea, suggested by parents, had been very popular and over 80 children had taken part.
- Year 6 reading buddies read with younger children and this supports the confidence of both the younger and older child and helps to promote the family ethos of the school.
- Reading reward assemblies now held at the end of each half term. Every week that children read at least four times a week they receive a raffle ticket and a chance to win a new book. Three tickets are drawn from each class box each half term. This has been popular with the children.
- A poetry competition had been launched by Mrs Henfield based on the poem 'The Magic Box'.
- A reading challenge has been launched, with certificates for 5 hours of reading and a small gift to be awarded when 10 hours of reading have been achieved.
- The school had contacted the author recommended by a Parent Forum member but his costs were high. A parent in school is in the process of publishing a children's book and school has approached her about coming into school.
- Following a Parent Forum member suggestion, school has looked into the '500 words' writing competition and is keen to participate next year. It

was recognised that the BBC website has good examples to share with the children.

- **ACTION 3** - School to promote continued pupil participation in the various reading events including the poetry competition, reading challenge and reading reward initiative.
- **ACTION 4** - School to provide recommended reading lists, with involvement of the pupils in the year group, with the aim of having this prepared for a summer holiday reading list.
- **ACTION 5** - School to organise the 'extreme reading challenge' again over the summer holiday.
- **ACTION 6** - School to provide opportunities for children to write and share book reviews.
- **ACTION 7** - School to consider further themed reading collections in consultation with the children, 'book of the month' ideas etc. to encourage children to read a wider variety of authors and genres.
- **ACTION 8** - School to take part in the '500 Words' BBC competition next year.

AGENDA ITEM 4 - Review of 'Spotlight on Reading' publication and discussion of next steps, suggestions for future editions etc.

- A member of the Parent Forum raised that the publication was helpful for parents new to the school, especially the approach to guided reading as it differs to the approach at Orchard.
- It was agreed that one of the identified next steps, to produce an information booklet for parents outlining how to support reading and comprehension skills, would be supportive.
- With reference to the section on the 'Young Shakespeare' theatre visit organised annually, a Parent Forum member recommended a child friendly set of Shakespeare texts published by the Book Company. It was felt that it was important for children to be familiar with the story before the theatre visit and to have opportunity to read Shakespeare texts afterwards.
- Discussion of next 'Spotlight on' publication - to focus on delivery of Science to tie in with school Science Week. Parent Forum suggested 'Sublime Science' as an exciting provider for an event during the week.
- Parent Forum members discussed the possibility of inviting parents with an engineering/science background to come into school to talk to the children. Pupils would see how engineering/science skills can lead to future career opportunities.

- **ACTION 9** - Parent Forum member to forward the details of the pupil friendly Shakespeare series to Mrs E.A. Crayton for consideration.
- **ACTION 10** - School to produce a reading information booklet for parents.
- **ACTION 11** - School to research into the costs and provision of the provider suggested for Science Week.
- **ACTION 12** - School to invite parents/members of the local community to visit school to discuss how they use science/engineering skills in the workplace.

AGENDA ITEM 5 - Discussion of parent presentations on the curriculum. School to provide workshops to provide an overview of the school's approach to curriculum delivery and home learning.

- **ACTION 13** - Parent Forum to consider the parent evaluations completed after the presentations at the next meeting.

Date of next meeting: 22nd May 2017 at 2.15pm