

Home Farm Primary School – Parent Forum - Friday 23rd March

Present – Mr Potter; Mrs Khan; Mrs Hayton; Mrs King; Mrs Newson; Mrs Berry; Mrs Mansfield; Mr Greatorex; Mrs Carlin

Apologies – Mrs Nesbitt

Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising

1. Mr Potter welcomed parents to the meeting. The actions agreed at the previous meeting had been taken forward. Morgan Sindall's site manager had met with the School Council to update the children on the building project, and School Council representatives had shared this with their classes.
2. The planned programme for World Book Day had been somewhat affected by the snow but some of the activities had gone ahead, including the 'shelfies', which were displayed in the library.

Issues raised by the school

3. Mr Potter provided an update on the school building project. The build was ahead of schedule, and by the end of Easter the shell of the building would be in place. During the last week of term, works to the car park were beginning and the staff would be parking on the playground. Mr Potter outlined arrangements for school drop-off, pick-up and for playtimes.
4. Parents asked whether there would be any issues with noise during SATs week, and Mr Potter confirmed that the contractors were aware of the timings of SATs, and there would be no noisy works during this period.
5. Mr Potter updated parents on a message he had included in the school weekly newsletter about bags and stationery. Storage space in classrooms was limited, and having lots of possessions in school led to problems with things being lost. Children did not need to bring large bags and pencil cases in to school.

Issues raised by parents

6. Parents reported that they had heard positive feedback about the screening which had been put up on the fence between the building site and the Years 3, 5, and 6 classrooms.
7. Parents raised the issue of the recent resurfacing works to Shelley Road. The school had been informed that works would be taken place, and had communicated this to parents. The school had expected the works to be more extensive, and had also provided some feedback to the authorities about the works removing some of the yellow zig zags outside of the school. No response had yet been received.
8. Parents asked about the likely impact of the increase to the published admissions number on traffic. Mr Potter explained that he was expecting a large proportion of the additional children being admitted in September 2018 to live fairly locally to the school.
9. Parents asked for an update on teaching cover arrangements in Year 5, and about the pupil reports provided for Year 5 children. Mr Potter explained that Year 5 parents had been provided with a detailed report on learning objectives – this was based on Mrs Arnold's assessments of the children and their progress. The school had not been able to provide the one-page summary this term for this year group. Parents would be able to have a detailed discussion with Mr Lucas at parents' evening and a detailed report would be provided in the summer term.

10. A parent asked whether Year 5 children knew who would be teaching them in the summer term. Mr Potter would ensure that they did.
11. Parents asked when the children would be able to access the gym equipment again. Mr Potter confirmed that now that the children were able to play on the field again, they had access to the play equipment.
12. Parents asked which classes would be using the new classrooms in September. Mr Potter confirmed that KS2 classes would be in the new classrooms, and KS1 in the existing building. The school would be taking an additional Year 4 class as well as an additional EYFS class from September 2018. Parents asked whether there would be a covered walkway between the two blocks. Mr Potter explained that this was not being funded as part of the building project, but the school would aim to add this at a later date. Parents asked how many toilets were available in the new block – there would be six pupil toilets located at the end of the corridor. The toilets were unisex – but they were floor to ceiling cubicles.
13. Parents asked what the changing arrangements would be for PE in the new block. There were no changing rooms provided as part of the build, so the classes would use paired arrangements as they do at the moment.
14. Mr Potter thanked parents for attending the meeting. The next meeting would take place on Friday 4th May at 2:15pm.