

Parent Forum Notes

Attending

Mrs Palmer

Governors: Anna Whitham, Alison Briers, Gemma Snodgrass

Number of parents 5, representing all age groups

1. World Book Day and Book Exchange

It was fantastic! The book exchange allowed everyone to have a good clear out at home and the children have been inspired to read new series.

It was requested that all dressing-up opportunities could be explicitly optional as some children find this particularly difficult.

2. School meals

A question was raised about the amount of vegetables and bread that are served. Each day the children have a choice of two vegetables. The younger children have these put on their plates and are encouraged to eat at least one of them. The older children are able to request one or more to be put on their plate. Bread is served with all meals except for pizza and jacket potatoes.

Everyone was very positive about school lunches: the wide selection, meals from different cultures and that the vegetarian options mirrored meat options so felt inclusive.

3. Trips and visits

Mrs Palmer shared that the school plans these across the whole school journey so that children have a broad array of experiences, including art galleries, theatre, outdoor and adventure, London, and may more. The costs are usually between £15 and £20 pounds for day visits which was thought to be reasonable.

Costs for these are always a voluntary contribution. Attending parents hoped that everyone who was able would contribute. There is some funding in school which is used to enable children all children to attend.

4. Parent Pay

The school is aware that this is an area where work needs to take place. Mrs Robinson has already begun this, although some of the system errors/adjustments will need to be made by Parent Pay.

Parents said that it had been better this term but expressed concern that the school may be experiencing some loss of revenue until this is rectified.

5. KS1 SATS

The children in year 2 will be completing the, now optional, KS1 SATS. In school children are tested at the end of each term, using published tests. This is to support teacher's judgement only. We will use the KS1 SATS in the same way.

The children do experience a test environment while they complete tests in school, so that they can perform to their best – without distraction. We encourage them to do their best and a lot of our children enjoy these activities.

6. Sports Day

The toddler's race did not take place last year as we ran over a little. We will do our best to make sure we have enough time for it this year.

7. Wraparound Care

What response has the school to the governments plans to increase the number of childcare providers so that parents of school-age children can access childcare in their local area from 8am – 6pm? This could include provision of activities that fall outside of school hours, via things like breakfast clubs and after-school clubs, or independent providers.

The school's wraparound care is run by school staff, which ensures that they are highly trained in many areas including SEND and support for medical needs. They know the children well and information about children is part of the school dialogue and not something that is an add-on. Children who go to either Breakfast Club or 3.15 Club really enjoy the experience and parents shared their confidence in their children's safety and happiness when attending.

The clubs provide childcare from 7.30a.m. until 5.15p.m. each day, except after school on a Friday. To extend these hours is likely to mean that people who work in school during the school day do not want to take on more hours and it would then be necessary to find other people who may just staff the wraparound care. The school feels that what they currently offer is excellent and therefore have no plans to make any changes.

8. Parent Voice

Parents expressed their thanks to the school for listening to their ideas and opinions, and noted that changes had been made following the last Parent Forum. They particularly liked the dates at the top of the weekly newsletter and found the extension of these made things easier to plan.