

Beechwood Junior School

Parents Forum

Meeting 2: Thursday 21 January 2016

Session 1: 14:00 Session 2: 19:00

In Attendance:

Beechwood Staff: Mrs Marsh (Headteacher), Mr Crosby (Head of Learning and Assessment),

Edwin Jones Trust: Dylan Wrixon, Family Support Manager Email: parents@hamwic.org

Parent Forum Representatives: *Session 1:* Denise Deacon (5B), *Session 2:* Clair Foster (5B)

Parents: *Session 1:* 15 parents *Session 2:* 1 parent

Welcome: Mrs Marsh thanked everyone for attending.

New Report Format - Mr Crosby distributed the proposed new form to parents and asked for feedback and any suggested amendments. Parents agreed they would like merit points and formal warnings included. Parents like the new format and information contained on it. A reply slip was discussed but owing to the poor return rate it was felt this may not be needed although the option to add comments was still liked by some.

Letter Monitors - The letters are issued to the children in class and there is not much more school can do with what happens to the letters between class and home. Text messages will continue to be sent home to notify parents letters have been sent.

Update on Mrs. Beckett's replacement - not discussed; more information will follow in due course once it has been decided.

PTA - not discussed; **AGM** will be on Tuesday 2 February at 2pm in school and as many parents as possible are needed to attend to vote committee in.

Crossing Patrol - To resolve this issue, Mrs Marsh is recruiting a crossing patrol person as the council were no longer providing this as a free service. As parents we are very grateful for the positive step the school has taken to address this concern.

Coping with education expectations and SATs in Year 6 - all is progressing and staff are working very hard coping with all of the changes to assessment and the curriculum.

Communication regarding Stubbington - some parents felt information should be released much earlier with information regarding residential to assist parents, both reassuring them and ensuring they can make informed decisions. Another point was raised regarding the 'first come first served' selection process. The school noted these points and will take them into consideration.

The meeting was brought to a close at 2:45pm as many parent present wished to attend the art gallery.

Recap on actions from meeting on 12.11.15:

- **'Share' Group** - PTA will contact Dylan Wrixon when they would like to start this.
- **Cyber Café** - Laptops are available at the coffee morning should anyone want to use them. Just ask Mrs. Hamilton.
- **Bad weather procedure** - all staff are aware of the procedures agreed at the previous Forum. Mrs. Marsh will send a text to all parents to inform them if the school is closed for any reason. Please ensure the office has your updated mobile numbers. Mrs. Marsh will contact Denise Deacon to ensure a notice is put on the Beechwood Parents Facebook page. Mrs. Marsh will also contact our IT technician who will update our website immediately.
- **Lost property** - a list of dates when the lost property will be displayed in the hall was put on the last newsletter. The lost property will be available from 2.30 onwards on these dates:
 - Monday 8th February**
 - Monday 21st March**
 - Monday 23rd May**
 - Monday 11th July**
- **Formation of PTA and Sub-Committee** - - not discussed but AGM on Tuesday 2 February 2pm - committee prepared - need as many as possible to attend to vote in the committee
- **Thrift Shop** - introducing selling of second hand uniform (PTA)
- **Website** - Mrs. Marsh sent out a questionnaire. Very few responses were returned but of those returned all comments were very positive and not suggestions were put forward for improvements.
- **Emails** - The concern at the last meeting was that the email addresses on the website were not working. Mrs. Marsh has personally tested all email addresses and they are all working.
- **Kitchen/Catering** - not discussed - please support the taster day being put on by Caterlink on 26 January both in the morning and afternoon
- **Lunchtime arrangements e.g. sandwiches, wet lunchtimes** - We have trialled the new wet lunchtimes with the children eating their sandwiches in their classrooms and this seems to have worked very well. We have also stopped the children from eating outside if it appears to be at all damp. This has however, not pleased the majority of children who have told us they would still like to eat outside. We have explained that it is due to parental concerns that we have stopped them being able to do so.
- **Disco - stamp on hand** - it was agreed this worked well
- **Sink hole** - I hope it has been noticed that this was repaired during the Christmas holidays.

NEXT MEETING

Thursday 21 April at 2pm

Please note as there has been such a poor uptake of the evening session, which was provided to include working parents as requested, an evening one will no longer be offered as it has cost implications for the school and workload issues for staff.