



# Milverton Primary School Parents' Forum



Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2015

Present: Ben Wilde, Leonie Frazier, Jo Potts, Sarah Simon and Sarah Nall

Apologies: Kay Lawrie-Stiven,

## **1. Matters arising from last meeting:**

Percy Pea Presentation Guidelines were sent home with the weekly newsletter on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April for parents to view and keep copies of at home.

## **2. Your views on:**

### **Mother's Day Lunches**

Those parents present who attended the mother's day lunches spoke positively of the experience they had. BW explained that an additional lunch had been organised for those who had missed out on the first opportunity. Following comments from other parents, wider discussion was had on the 'inclusiveness' of such events and it was recognised that it is always going to be difficult to be able to include all members of the school community.

This term there will be two family breakfast Fridays around father's day (19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> June) with a prompt to encourage Dad's, Grandads' Uncles to get involved.

Next year we will try running parent/grandparent lunches for specific year groups through the year.

### **Year 2 SATS Information Meeting**

Following discussion at the Parents' Forum last year Ms Twigger and Mrs Clemmey led an information session for the Yr 2 parents on SATs. This session was well received and has helped parents feel more informed about the process that children are part of. A suggestion was made that sample SATs papers are made available to parents to view.

## **5. Discussion Items**

### **Valuables in School**

Parents cited incidences in P.E. sessions when children have been asked to take off watches and put the on the stage. At the end of the lesson the watches have gone missing. The question was asked to minimise loss of valuable in this way, would it be possible to have a box in each classroom in which valuable things could be stored during P.E. sessions. BW agreed that this was appropriate

Action – School to purchase valuable box for each class

### **Sibling Care during Early Bird Sessions**

The question was asked whether there is an appropriate space that parents of children who are accessing Early Bird sessions could sit and engage with younger/older siblings before school starts. BW agreed that the Dining Hall would be a suitable space to use from 8.30am onwards.

### **School/Personal Property Amnesty**

It is recognised that many children may take home things (school and other children's property) from school that does not belong to them. This may often be unintentional and is not a deliberate act of stealing. Similarly items of school property that have been taken home may, over time, get lost at home. The idea of setting up a Property Amnesty was discussed and supported by all present. This would be an opportunity for children/parents to return any items anonymously through using collection boxes around the school.

Action – school to set up collection points around the school and advertise in newsletter.

### **Music Lessons**

The issue of children struggling with practising to learn to play musical instruments and then giving up was discussed. The question was asked whether CMS music teachers could provide any support to parents regarding motivating children to practise. BW suggested that if a child was struggling for this reason and wanting to stop that a short meeting between parent and CMS teacher might be beneficial in trying to move things forward.

Action – school to liaise with CMS teachers regarding communication possibilities with parents

### **Healthy Packed Lunches**

A discussion took place re healthy lunchboxes and children being encouraged to eat a good balance of different food types. Midday Supervisors do a good job of monitoring the food being eaten by infant children who have school dinners, but this is less easy with children who have packed lunches. It was felt it would be appropriate to resend info to parents that the school council created last year.

Action - school to send out school council information re healthy lunchboxes

### **AOB**

#### **Arts Week**

A question was asked re arts week. BW explained that the next Arts Week was being planned for the Autumn Term. Parents at the meeting asked that if letters seeking parental support could be worded such that any parent would feel able to get in contact with the school and be included.

**Date of next meeting: Thurs 11<sup>th</sup> June at 9.00am**

**To include:**

- **Discussion re reading records and reading in school (with Mrs Belmega)**
- **Update from Mr Geddes on Teaching and Learning of computing at MPS**

