

## Parent Forum

On Wednesday evening I hosted a parent forum meeting. These have been an opportunity for parents to come and discuss issues, hopefully answer any questions people have and hear the reasoning behind some of the decisions made at school. Thank you to all who attended!

We discussed Communication, Homework and the cost of school events.

Communication: the overriding feeling was positive about school communication, we discussed the Friday headlines, the school app with messages and emails. One suggestion was to try and include timings on events on the headlines calendar and the weduc calendar to help parents plan. Another suggestion was to include a school map with numbered gates and doors to try and help parents know where to go for drop offs or collections. Parents also asked if a brief explanation of school behavior strategies could be outlined so parents can help to support with language used at school. I will include this in next weeks headlines.

Homework: Again the over riding feeling was a positive response to the current school provision. We discussed the homework books, the importance of the activities selected; Reading, Maths facts and spellings. We also explained there were some optional theme based additional tasks for those who wanted to try something different. I also highlighted the example reading comprehension questions provided to help parents with reading at home. I highlighted that Reading widely and often is the most important homework routine you can develop with your child, as all the evidence suggests this is the best indicator of success in school.

Cost of school events: I explained how the rising costs of admissions, transport and pretty much everything else has ensured a rise in the cost of everything we ask from parents and we recognize this. We discussed how we now limit the amount of trips we do with this in mind. We also discussed how all school events are put on with the hope everyone can join in and money should not be the deciding factor. I reemphasized that all events such as school disco's are put on with the suggested donation tag, meaning if you don't want to pay the suggested donation you don't have to. I never check how much money is put into the bucket on entry at such events. We just want everyone to enjoy the activity!

We will hold another forum in the Spring term please send in any ideas for topics to discuss! Thanks everyone!