

Parent Champion Meeting Friday 14th January 2022

In attendance:

Esther Lawrence

Jayne Watson

Lisa Hopwood

Nicola Taylor

Jamie Caswell (co-Head)

Liz Stiddard (co-Head)

Kate McBain (minute taker)

1. School Lunches:

Parents concerned with the portion size mainly on panini days as half of a panini isn't enough for the older children and even some of the smaller children. Concern expressed about the quality of food, particularly the chips and menu options not very child friendly. Spaghetti Bolognaise was a suggestion.

Information - It was suggested that asking the children what they would like to eat through school council. The school is in touch with the school dinner provider regularly. Generally, feedback is good and any issues are picked up and communicated quickly. The kitchen follows weights and measures guidance to ensure meals provided are balanced and healthy.

2. Fencing:

Gap in the fencing by the gate is a concern parents have asked if this will be fixed when the new fencing is installed.

Parents have asked what type of fencing will be installed and what height it will be, as there were concerns of parents and children climbing over it.

Information – Co-heads shared information about the new fencing with Parent Champions which is due to be installed imminently. Since the meeting, the temporary fencing has been removed and gap filled.

3. Reading:

Parents asked about how much reading should be done by parents at home. Not all parents know to complete log books and would like this checked more regularly.

Parents suggested that a stricter reading regime should be in place for amount of reading to be done at home e.g. three times a week.

Guided reading takes place and parents would like more feedback from this.

Information – Books which children bring home linked to where they are at with phonics and school will arrange to do the phonics information evening again so that more parents can attend.

Information is included in the Curriculum Information Letters about reading expectations at home and reminders will be sent out. As a minimum, we expect children to read with an adult 3 x a week at home.

4. After School Care:

Parents are keen for paid-for after school childcare they and feel there would be enough interest to run this. At least 4 parents in one class have shown an interest. School would need at least 10 children for this to be viable.

Hourly rate was discussed and was suggested a charge of around £4/£4.50 per session. Possibly run until 5pm after clubs have finished.

Information – offering an after school club would attract more children to the school in the future. A new survey will be sent out to gauge current demand and feasibility.

5. Announcements:

Parents would like as much notice as possible for events and to know which clubs children would be doing. The change of date for inset day was discussed and it was agreed that notice and explanation had been given of the change in advance.

Information – New website up and running and dates communicated as soon as they possibly can be. Clubs are coordinated with staff, sports coaches and volunteers and information is sent out ahead of the new term.

6. Handwriting consistency:

Some parents would like clarification about joining and letter formation.

Information – a new handwriting policy has been introduced setting out the progression from Year R to Year 6 and to ensure consistency between classes and schools. The policy will be published on the website.