

Parents' Forum 2

Date: 7.1.15

Parents in attendance for today's meeting:

Parent	Year groups represented
Annette Harrison	Year 3
Ciaran Dodd	Years 3, 1
Ellie Burt	Reception(next year N)
Pam Gregson	Years 3, 1
Sally McMillan	Reception
Anna Jones	Assistant Head KS1 Year 5, 6 parents

Dates for future meetings are:

Wednesday 18th February at 9.05am

Wednesday 15th April at 9.05am

Wednesday 3rd June at 9.05am

Wednesday 1st July at 9.05am

Notes from Previous Meeting 3.12.14

Notes from previous meeting had been circulated to all Parents' Forum members via email. Paper copies given for discussion in meeting.

Parents discussed how information from meetings will be shared with other parents and staff. Possibility of a Parents' Forum newsletter with brief information from the meetings on- Parents Forum members to write a brief introduction about themselves to be shared on first newsletter, e.g. who they are, what year group their children are in, why they wanted to become part of Parents Forum. This is to be brought to the next meeting on 18.2.14, so that we can discuss format. If members would like to email it when completed please send to AJones@mickleover.derby.sch.uk

AJ to find out if school IT technicians can set up a Parents' Forum email address that could be shared with parents who wish to contribute to future meetings.

A note about the agenda could be set up on the school webpage or sent via text to parents to inform them of what we will be discussing. Alternatively a suggestion box for Parents Forum could be placed at the office or near the school gate in the week leading up to the forum, so that parents can put in questions or comments for the meeting.

Workshops/tutorials

As part of the first meeting we discussed possible workshops that could be set up for parents on areas such as addition and subtraction methods etc. Is there any way that these workshops might be able to be filmed or presentation notes from the sessions be added to the school website or VLP so that parents can access this at a later date?

Healthy Eating

Sandwiches from home- would be possible for school to remind parents of suitable items to include in a healthy lunchbox, so that other pupils who are sandwiches do not put pressure on those who are making healthy choices to have chocolate bars/ cakes in lunchboxes?

Discussed the option of school taking part in Healthy Eating Week 1st to 5th June so that staff are able to consolidate work already taking part in DT and Science lessons on Healthy Lifestyles. AJ to arrange week with staff.

Also, when school has different events for fundraising e.g. Christmas Fair, Summer Fair there is usually a high proportion of sweets and chocolates available for children and parents to purchase, would it be possible to look at giving a more balanced option, such as fruity snacks or low fat/sugar treats for people to purchase?

Communications between home and school

Parents asked about whether more emphasis could be given on using electronic methods of communication, such as posting all newsletters on the school website more regularly or giving parents the option to sign up to have electronic copies of letters/ newsletters instead of paper copies if they chose to opt in, as a way of reducing paperwork being sent home/ lost by children.

Young Enterprise- the Fiver Challenge

AJ shared idea of children from ages 5-11 being able to take part in the 'Fiver Challenge', a national initiative where pupils are given £5 each and work in groups to make something that can be sold to raise money for school projects. All parents felt that this was a good idea, as it would help children to learn about how money works and taking responsibility for money at an early age.

Mrs Jones and Mrs Slater to organise registration for pupils in March when the registration line goes live. Challenge to take place sometime towards the end of June/ beginning of July 2015. Resources from the national My Money Week, which is usually held in March could be used during Young Enterprise week instead.

Healthy Schools review

Each year Derby City schools are required to do a review of where they are in terms of working with pupils on issues such as PSHE, Healthy Eating, Relationships and Sex Education, Drug Awareness and anti-bullying work. As part of this work we need to carry out regular surveys to take into account the points of view of pupils, parents, staff and governors. As a start for our Healthy Schools review for this year all members of Parents' Forum have been asked to complete a questionnaire from Derby City and return it for the next meeting on 18.2.15.

We will then look at the feedback and format to see what issues/ successes we can note from the work the school is currently doing.

School Garden

With the initial success of our new catering manager's menus Mr Goodwin is now looking to find ways to expand the opportunities for pupils to learn about healthy eating and how to grow your own food.

Initial discussions in school are to set up a pupil Food Council, who would be able to meet and discuss menus and ways to improve our work on healthy eating/ lifestyles, but that we would also begin to look into the possibility of starting our own school garden to grow fruit and vegetables. Please see attached list of useful websites to help us start thinking about ways in which Parents' Forum might be able to help this idea become reality.

Possible links to the local allotments near the school premises might be a good way for pupils to start to learn about how to look after plants- AJ to contact and see if a group could go down to talk to allotment owners.

E-Safety

Parents raised a question about the work we are doing in school on e-safety and what plans there are in the new computing curriculum for e-safety training for pupils. In the next meeting we will spend some time looking at the new computing curriculum and how it supports pupils in being e-safety aware. Possible opportunities for School Council pupils or Parents' Forum to create an e-safety leaflet for parents to see how this is addressed in each year group through school?

Next meeting to be held: Weds 18th February 2015 at 9.05am.