

## **Parents' Forum Minutes 2.11.16**

**Attended: Anna Jones ( Assistant Headteacher), Ciaran Dodd ( Year 3 and Year 5), Petya Ignatova (Reception), Debbie Parks ( Year 4), Sally McMillan (Rec and Year 2), Ellie Burt (Year 2 and Year 1), Katherine Bale( Year 5), Clare Ragsdale (Rec), Mrs Elzaib ( Y1).**

**Apologies: Amanda Walker, Pam Gregson, Shaun McCartney, Rebecca Lockhart.**

Meeting started at 9.10am

### **Assessment, Recording and Reporting: Progress Check sheets**

Mrs Jones shared with parents the suggested format for our new end of term progress check sheets. This has been developed in line with feedback from parents last year about having more information during the year regarding how their child is progressing in line with the new curriculum expectations.

The format shows simple tracking for effort, attainment and behaviour.

#### **Feedback on the suggested format is as follows:**

Ciaran Dodd and Sally McMillan both asked how do we make it clear to parents whether the attainment is referring to Literacy or Maths- should there be three columns in the attainment section, one for reading, one for writing, one for maths? Should Science be also reported on?

Do we need to have a brief explanation for pupils and parents about what the difference between good and excellent is, so that the children know what they need to do to move to the next boundary or do we just need to have good in the effort section?

Debbie Parks felt that this new format was a great move forward, simple enough to give information to parents as the time between our parents' evenings in February to July when the reports come out is perhaps too long? All the other parents agreed and have asked if we might consider moving the Spring term parents meetings to March rather than February, as they felt that the time between the October to Spring parents meetings is too short and the gap between the Spring Parents' Meeting and the Summer Report is too long.

Petya Ignatova explained that schools she previously worked at had a graded system for effort from grade 2 to 6, where 4 was good, 5 very good and 6 excellent. Could we perhaps look at this for the Summer reporting system?

Clare Ragsdale brought in some examples from Brookfield School of reading diaries and end of year reports for us to look at in the next meeting. Mrs Jones to share these ideas with SLT to see how we could change our format and then we will present this at a future Parents' Forum meeting.

### **Our World Week**

Information about the planned theme days was shared with parents today- there are going to be five separate theme days over the week:

Mon- Global Learning Day- children to find out about the different countries we have represented in our school. Mrs Hilton will be leading the assembly on this day.

Tues- MPS Values Day- linked to British Values- Mrs Jones shared the proposed leaflet to explain to parents what the British Values are. This will go out on this day.

Weds-Cyber Bullying Day- as there is new legislation for schools, Mrs Halliday and Mrs Clennell, our Computing Co-ordinators will be leading the assemblies for this day. There will be follow up work to this day on our Safer Internet Day in February.

Thurs- World Faith Day. Mrs Ruddle to lead the assembly this day. Children to learn about faiths around the world.

Fri- Anti-bullying week- this is also Children in Need Day, so pupils will be find out about both on this day. We looked this morning at the leaflet that Parents' Forum helped design last year about anti-bullying and cyber-bullying. Mrs Jones to tweak the layout of the leaflet, so that it fits on a double sided A4 sheet, move the sections on what is bullying, add signs to watch out for and who to talk to in school, then put the cyber bullying information altogether on the back of the leaflet, so that it flows a bit more logically.

Also, on the 15<sup>th</sup> November we have been offered the chance to be part of the first Parliamentary workshop for primary schools being hosted by the Bishop of Derby, who is a member of the House of Lords. Two pupils from the junior school council will be attending the session at Derby Cathedral, taking part in a debate and learning about the 2015 Modern Slavery Act as part of our work on British Values. They will be sharing what they have found out later on in the week.

Suggestions from forum- could we perhaps give the children the chance to dress up in traditional costume on the Monday, or have a Red, White and Blue day on the Tuesday?

Parents asked if we might be able to have a letter that covers all the things we are going to be learning sent out just before the week so that they are aware of what the children will be working on. Could we also ask parents if they would like to send in foods for the children to try out?

Mrs Jones to organise and send out letter for parents.

### **Maths workshops**

Following the feedback from the distribution of the calculation policy for workshops, Mrs Sharpe and Mrs Harrison have provisionally planned out the workshops for parents. The idea is that we will have sample lessons running in each class so that parents can go in and see different aspects of the four rules ( addition, subtraction, multiplication and division).

Parents asked if there would be an introductory meeting to cover the policy before they were given opportunities to visit classrooms, as we did with the phonics workshops, as they would be helpful. Suggestions were that perhaps we could video the children in class working on a certain aspect of maths for their year group and then these videos could play on a loop for parents to go and watch in the classrooms rather than the children having to work.

Otherwise, could we just have a drop in session during the school day after the parents have been in to the hall to have the policy introduced- all KS1 classes one day and all KS2 classes another day, good for parents who have children in both key stages? Or ask parents if there is a specific area of maths that they would like to focus on.

Thanks to the members of Parents' Forum who have started Parents' Workshop- the first session of the year was yesterday and was really productive. Staff are all really grateful to people who have volunteered. The workshops will run on Tuesday afternoons from 1.30pm till 3.30pm, with volunteers continuing to make resources for staff as needed.

Thanks to Sally McMillan and Katie Burgess for reinvigorating FOMPS. There has been a positive response from staff and parents about moving the Christmas Fair to a Saturday morning so that more families can come and help with stalls etc.

Next meeting will be on Weds 11<sup>th</sup> January 2017 at 9.05am