



Parent Forum Meeting

Thursday 19th April 2018

2.00pm-3.30pm

Farmer Franks Lane
Winkleigh
Devon EX19 8JQ

MINUTES

Present: Vicki Fenemore Sheevaun Manning Cherry Roadnight Robin Harper (Chair of Governors) Caroline Crosby (minutes)
Liz Jones Emma Rhodes Netti Habel Angela Jones Xenia Robinson Tanya Beardon Alison Sutherland

	ITEM	LEADER	MINUTES	ACTIONS
ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION				
1	Apologies for absence		RH, NH & CR apologies	
2	School meals – pudding choices		Children are offered fruit and yoghurt daily. Cooked puddings are offered twice a week on the current menu. VF agreed to reinforce with the children that they can have fruit and yoghurt. Kitchen staff will make sure that fruit and yoghurt are offered.	
3	School holidays – how do you decide when occasional days and non-pupil days will be?		Throughout the academic year there are 5 training days and 2 occasional days that can be added onto the Devon County Council school holidays. Winkleigh Primary School choose to add these extra days to the school holidays rather than selecting days in the middle of a term as this would interrupt teaching sequences.	

		<p>LJ suggested that there may be families who would like to go away for a long weekend? Teaching sequences work in 5 day blocks, therefore it would be odd to start the week on a Tuesday, as then planning of sequences does not work. Shorter weeks are therefore limited to the beginning or end of a term. The training days are used by staff to get together to review the term, plan and train. SM explained that there are 6 children's data drops every academic year (one every half term). Training days are spread throughout the academic year to enable staff to get together and review data amongst other things. If this does not happen planning becomes very difficult. VF explained that in September it is easier for younger children to start back on a short week, therefore the first week back to school in September is often planned as a short week. Babcock training courses are organised throughout year, so in order to fit in whole staff training we have to use inset days throughout the year.</p> <p>How far in advance do we plan? Term dates are planned 2 years in advance.</p>	
4	<p>Lunch time activities – detailed suggestions for additional activities at lunch times</p>	<p>Lunchtimes do have a rota. Throughout the week each class has allocated time in the walled playground for football or tennis watched by an adult. Tyre park and climbing wall and frame watched by an adult. We create a balance between structured activity and downtime. Children need to be able to develop on their own without having adult intervention all of the time. They need to develop resilience and have some free time. Some children struggle socially and need to work things out for themselves without adult intervention.</p> <p>VF explained that there are lots of activities available at lunchtime; lego, books, play with blocks, colouring, chess. Plus, in the summer, football on the field, tennis, games.</p> <p>There are 5 Meal Time Assistants split between the hall and outside play. AJ suggested a buddy system. VF agreed to look into a year6 buddy system, there are play leaders, but perhaps make the system more official. Year6 do set up games and buddy children who do not have anyone to play with. However, some children want to be alone, have a bit of down time and we do have to recognise this. If children have any difficulties, they know that they can talk to an adult for support.</p> <p>Reception, year1 & year2 stay on the top playground at lunchtime. VF to speak to Mrs Gent about the play leader system and buddy bench.</p>	

5 Sugar consumption at school – resubmission of item from previous meeting

NH - sugar has a devastating effect on the body. Diabetes, liver disease etc. Adult should consume no more than 40g of sugar per day. Concerned about School Disco and Christmas Fair. The school abides by nutritional guidelines for lunch, so school lunch is not an issue. How many packets of sweets are consumed at the school disco?

General lively forum group discussion with comments such as;
Each family of course has their own policy. Parents could limit amount of money given to children for school events.

Discos are run by FOW not school. FOW have in the past trialled a raffle ticket per child to purchase sweets and a drink. This imposes a limit of money to bring to the disco. FOW do limit the amount of sweets that each child can purchase. It is a fundraiser for school, however, FOW do not want to raise money to the detriment of children's health. School discos are not very frequent.

It is seen by the child that school is endorsing sweets as they are sold at the school disco. Parents could see this as a safeguarding issue?

It is also an opportunity for children to learn about limits. If you forbid sweets this will make children want more.

Would parents be interested if there was a higher cost for the disco, if a ticket included a hotdog and a small bag of sweets? Yes. Need to balance and maximise fundraising as school needs funds, minimise sweets to promote a balanced diet.

School does provide a healthy meal and promotes a healthy snack and consumption of water only.

Provide a statement on FOW disco information poster such as; snack shop is available however please talk to your child about moderation. Need to declare what will be sold and how much for.

Should FOW offer fruit and healthy food and drink and be prepared to have a lower attendance and less profit for school?

Some parents have a dilemma as to whether to send their child to the disco due to sugar.

FOW do limit the amount of sweets sold to each child. FOW are volunteers trying their best to provide events to raise funds for school.

FOW will discuss this issue and come back to parents with a solution

Cake stall has adults present to monitor purchases

It is hard for a Christmas Fair to not involve sweets as it is seen as

		traditional. Year 5 and 6 make games for the Fair and every prize is a sweet. Can children win credits? Yes. Prizes are donated by parents, however need to make sure that parents donate something other than sweets. Credit shop is massive success therefore build on this success by offering credits as prizes.	
6	Parent Lite	The committee were asked to trial a new system for school that will enable parents to update their details online rather than through the once a year data collection form.	
	Date of next meeting	Meeting closed at. 3.25pm` Next meeting: Thursday 7 th June 2018 2.00pm – 3.30pm	

Signed

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