



## Parent Forum Meeting

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2018 2.00pm -3.30pm

### AGENDA

Farmer Franks Lane  
Winkleigh  
Devon EX19 8JQ

Vicki Fenemore

Sheevaun Manning

Cherry Roadnight Robin Harper (Gov)

Caroline Crosby

Liz Jones

Emma Rhodes

Netti Habel

Angela Jones

Xeni Robinson

Tanya Beardon

Alison Sutherland Hilary Bruce

Suzie Marles

	ITEM	LEAD	Minutes	ACTIONS
<b>ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION</b>				
1	Apologies for absence	VF	Apologies from AS & XR. New members welcomed	
2	Term time holidays	VF	<p>Legally school are not able authorise holidays. We accept that children go on holiday however strongly advise not to miss any school time in year 6. Pupils need to consolidate learning by year 6.</p> <p><b>Do school fine?</b> No we currently do not, other local schools also do not fine. The fine goes to Devon County Council not the school. It is a deterrent. The Education Welfare Officer visits school every term to look at attendance and advises on children with low attendance</p>	
3	Traffic and parking	VF	<p>School have discussed this with Highways, Highways have been out, Police have monitored parking, cones have been supplied by Highways. They are there to keep the children safe, <b>do not move them</b>. Parents must not drive down the turning circle as this puts the children at risk.</p> <p>The newsletter regularly mentions parking, road safety week is coming up. There is very little else school can do. We talk to the children trying to promote walking to school and cycling. In the past a walking bus has been suggested, but there are huge implications surrounding this. Who will staff it / run it. How will children be kept safe, if parents run it are they prepared to be responsible for the safety of the children and responsible for ensuring that the children get to school on time??</p>	Road safety posters laminated for display outside of the school

			<p>Please park sensibly, we know it is an issue as it is in lots of other schools. School receives complaints from bus companies worried about the safety of the children. We do keep trying to educate children and parents.</p> <p><b>Can children be rewarded for walking/cycling to school?</b></p> <p>It was suggested that as part of road safety week children make posters that are laminate and attached to cones.</p>	
4	Calendar and diary dates	CC	<p><b>Can the website calendar be printed and displayed outside on the noticeboard?</b> The calendar is continually updated. A printout would only be up to date on the day that it was printed. It is not feasible to print it all off every time it is updated</p> <p><b>Can the items on the website calendar page be colour coded? Trips one colour, after school clubs another colour?</b> Unfortunately, it is not possible to do this.</p> <p>It was requested that out of school clubs are not put onto the school calendar on the website to make the calendar easier to look at.</p> <p><b>Can school send out message or put on the newsletter if a date is added to the calendar?</b> We can look into this.</p> <p><b>To promote Open events can a flip chart be put outside of school in the morning / the day before?</b> We can do this.</p> <p><b>Why are there no cake stalls this term??</b> There are no class assemblies due to the Christmas productions this term. Cake stalls will resume in the Spring term.</p>	<p>Out of school clubs can be removed from the website calendar.</p> <p>Review layout of the newsletter to see if another section can be added for calendar updates</p> <p>Flipchart outside of school to remind parents of open events</p>
5	Making use of and engaging with willing parents in areas such as shredding, displays etc	ALL	<p>This is very difficult due to confidentiality and Data Protection. Unfortunately, school cannot have volunteers shredding confidential data. School also has a very strict display policy to enhance the children's work and learning. The creation of a display is a long process with children developing art work etc.</p> <p>Mrs Brook, Mrs Winsor, Mrs Sambou, Mrs Roadnight spent their own time over the October half term holiday tidying the school garden. School could do with help in the garden as this is used to show children how things grow and leads onto, health eating etc. Perhaps a working party can be set up to maintain the garden, work with groups of children. <b>NH confirmed that she is happy to help.</b> It was agreed that in the Spring term an invitation would be sent out to parents asking for</p>	<p>Spring term send out invitation to parents to volunteer to join a garden working party.</p>

		<p>volunteers for a working party.</p> <p><b>Can parents ask if they can help?</b> Yes, if parents are willing to volunteer please send in ideas for volunteering through the Parent Forum. School currently need help developing the outside areas.</p> <p>Lost Property is an enormous task by the end of term and Admin staff spend time sorting through it. At the end of Summer term volunteers could help school staff to fill the skip. This would enable some support staff to stay in the classrooms working with the children rather than filling the skip.</p> <p><b>Certain parents have skills, could a bank of willing volunteers be created?</b> Yes, please send in via the Parent Forum details of any skills that parents/carers would be willing to volunteer.</p>	
6	Safeguarding policy	<p>SM</p> <p><b>School have recently changed the way that children and parents come into school in the mornings. This is seen by some parents as part of a host of measures that push parents away from school. There is a sense that parents view this as a threat (NH)</b></p> <p>SM commented that it is important to understand as to how school have arrived at these decisions. SM is the Safeguarding lead in school. School is not pushing parents away but rather managing how parents can access school more effectively whilst adhering to our Safeguarding and Health and Safety procedures. Parents have in the past gone into a classroom to tell a teacher off in front of the children. Parents have been in class swearing at a teacher for a child not being picked for the football team. Various children are highlighted by parents, school needs to protect those children. A member of staff recently informed SM that a parent was in school after school hours. She was worried as to how the parent had got in, who it was, what they were doing in the classroom. <b>School needs to protect staff as well as children.</b></p> <p>As part of an Ofsted inspection officers walk around the site and try to get into school. If they get in this is viewed as not acceptable. We have now installed high gates to protect the children on the playground. There used to be a lot of traffic in school in the morning. Teachers were often waylaid first thing in the morning when they were starting morning tasks. This often resulted in children's learning starting late. Members of staff now monitor the playground gate in the mornings. They can see children safely into the playground and are available to answer quick parent queries. If parents need a longer discussion with a Teacher please feel free to make an appointment, go to the front door to see Admin, please attend our open mornings and our Parents' Evenings.</p>	

			<p>A recent popular open morning was a maths morning. An English open morning could be the next topic for parents to come in and see.</p> <p><b>There is a sense of bewilderment and dismay that parents are not wanted in school (NH)</b></p> <p>We would like those parents to come in and talk about this in school. Of all of the parents seen at parents evening none of them mentioned this. Access to school during the school day is managed in line with our Safeguarding and Health &amp; Safety policies rather than being an open door policy. Schools change continually, Safeguarding and GDPR mean big changes for schools. These regulations may not be liked but they must be accommodated. We are not saying that parents are not welcome.</p> <p><b>A high fence was asked for to keep the children safe and adults out. Surely it is better for everyone to be safe (TB)</b></p> <p>We constantly risk assess our school. Safeguarding does apply to Winkleigh, we do have to deal with Safeguarding issues as members of school staff. Issues have not been raised by other parents through Parent Forum or Parents' Evening regarding safety and access to school.</p> <p><b>Is there going to be a Parent Questionnaire? This could be a way for parents to comment anonymously if they wish (NH)</b></p> <p>A questionnaire will be sent out before the end of term.</p>	
7	Father's Day event	ALL	<p>A few years ago, school hosted a day for Dads. Mother's Day Massage has become a tradition now with the school. Father's Day is in June at assessment time. We have hosted maths morning.</p> <p><b>An activity should be thought of for dads? It was suggested that there could be a Dad's massage.</b></p> <p>Historically Dads events have not been very well attended and are therefore difficult to manage. Do you stop Mother's Day Massage to make it fair?</p> <p><b>No don't want to stop it. Perhaps a mass massage in the hall at a set time for Dads to attend in June?</b></p> <p>Perhaps open events need to be marketed more to attract more parents. Information needs to be sent out in plenty of time so that parents can organise time off of work.</p> <p><b>Parent Forum thought that the maths event was brilliant. Well run, something new to see in school. Lovely event. Maybe English event next?</b></p> <p>As a school we are just starting a theme promoting the Love of Reading. Perhaps invite Fathers in to read with their children?</p>	
	Date of next meeting	ALL	Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March 2.00pm	