

Parent Forum – Thursday 20th June 2019

Attendees:- Adam Campbell, Kerry Mercer, Sue A'Court, Caryn Evirgen, Lidia Haitink, Claire McChristie, Helen Rossetti, Vicki McQueen, Leon Grimes, Sarah Best, Rebecca Ellis

1. **Minutes from previous meeting** - everyone agreed the minutes and these will now be put on the website

2. **Matters arising**

- Swop Shop - sending out details about what costumes are required.
- PE is still getting cancelled because of the rain. AC said that the hall gets used for Y4 rehearsals so then it can't be used if it rains. Parents felt that the children could at least do yoga in the classroom. Little exercises – even a 15 minute lesson. **Action AC**
- Healthy snacks – some schools dictate about what they want. AC stated that you can't insist but you can promote the ethos. It was suggested that unwrapped snacks would be good for the environment. AC commented that the school agreed with the views expressed here and that the School Development Plan next year would be focusing on a healthy lifestyle including promoting healthy eating - **Action AC**
- Suggestion box – it has been agreed that we will do that. Physical box in the entrance hall and promoting an email. **Action AC.**
- Can the older children have some learning through play? AC stated that the previous government were on the way to doing this then the current government has not looked into this. AC spoke about Ofsted not being interested in the rest of the curriculum in the past – last time we were asked about science. Emphasis is changing and it's about a broad and balanced curriculum now. Over the next 2 years we are going to be looking at the rest of the curriculum. Looking at science, their enjoyment of it and the vehicle we are using. AC agreed that children learn through play. He spoke about the teachers observing each other and that we had been focussing on science – both y4 and y3 teacher agreed that the most fascinating part of the lesson was inventing their own questions about the gyrocopters through being allowed to play with them.

3. **Lunchtime arrangements**

- Picnic Days were suggested perhaps on the last day of term .
- Organise some parents, grandparents days to come in and eat lunch.
- Choice of lunch not being available. **Action SAC**
- Lunchtime Survey – ask the kids – School Council could do this.
- Different approach to lunchtime time Year 1 and 2 rotating and 3 and 4 rotating when they come in and have lunch.
- Lunchtime activities – Children sometimes don't manage to eat their lunch if they are at a club – **Action SAC**
- AC spoke about more trim trails etc are being bought with the sports premium money. SAC spoke about the zoning which we are working on.

- Siblings and friends day when the children can play together. Year 1 and 4 together one day and Year 2 and 3 together. This could be done at morning play and we will trial this and feedback. **Action AC**

4. Future Agenda Items

- Promoting The Firs Action Plan
- Firs football festival to be held at Redborne for next school year – **VMc to action**
- Parents volunteered to show parents round on open days, talking to prospective parents about why they chose The Firs. **Action SAC**
- You said and we did board - **Action AC**

5. AOB

- Can something be put in the newsletter about parents putting their car engines off when they drop off their child as this is polluting the air. **SAC to action**
- Can Kids' Club open at 7.30am - AC said that this might be difficult to arrange but he would discuss it with Kid's Club - **Action AC**
- Can we promote Forest Schools at the open evening – parents love the fact that we are a Forest School. **Action AC**

(Date of next meeting: - Thursday 26th September)

Rescheduled date of next meeting – Needed to be moved due to another engagement - moved to Thursday 3rd October