# Parent Forum Meeting Minutes

| | |
|---|---|
| Date | Wednesday, 8th July at 2.30pm |
| Attendees: | |

| *Name* | Year Group | Class | Attended |
|---|---|---|---|
| Mrs. Fraser | Headteacher | | ✓ |
| Mr. Ladyman | Deputy Headteacher | | × |
| Mrs. Lewis | Office Administrator | | ✓ |
| *Vacant* | Nursery | Little Berries | |
| Kate McKeon | Nursery | Little Pines | ✓ |
| Kiran Bagga | Nursery | Little Acorns | × |
| Kiran Bagga | Reception | Birch | × |
| Gemma Moncada | Reception | Hazel | ✓ |
| Adina Carda Ciucan | Reception | Willow | × |
| Sharon Patterson | Year One | Beech | ✓ |
| *Vacant* | Year One | Elm | |
| Siobhan Connolly | Year One | Lime | ✓ |
| Sophie Baker | Year Two | Oak | ✓ |
| *Vacant* | Year Two | Plane | |
| Sannah Khan | Year Two | Spruce | ✓ |
| *Vacant* | Year Three | Alder | |
| Laurilee Green | Year Three | Cedar | ✓ |
| *Vacant* | Year Three | Chestnut | |
| *Vacant* | Year Four | Ash | |
| *Vacant* | Year Four | Rowan | |
| *Vacant* | Year Four | Walnut | |
| Sharon Patterson | Year Five | Maple | ✓ |
| Laura Nunn | Year Five | Sycamore | ✓ |
| Laurilee Green | Year Six | Aspen | ✓ |
| *Vacant* | Year Six | Hawthorn | |

*Please note: Parent Forum is to raise questions that reflect a consensus. Individual opinions will not be discussed within the meeting and alternative channels of communication must be utilised.*

| *Issues raised from parents/carers on the online feedback and from the meeting* | |
|---|---|
| Nursery | 1. Would it be possible to clear the planted area outside the nursery entrance. It (like the rest of Berryfields!) gets filled with weeds very quickly which is a shame. It has been suggested that perhaps it could become a place to store bikes/scooters.<br>There are currently no funds to support this. If there is a suggestion of a community link we can tap into then we would be open to look into this. |

| | |
|---|---|
| Reception | 1. Some parents/carers gave feedback that switching from German to French or Spanish does make sense and will make move to secondary school easier in the future. Most parents/carers didn't seem to mind whether it switched to French or Spanish. There was a suggestion that Spanish would be good as Spanish is what AVA do in the primary school so it means they would be in same position as the children from AVA with Spanish being familiar and French being new to them when they move up and could mean that children across both schools can perhaps do some interschool language activities/share resources across the two schools. There was also a suggestion that British Sign Language could be an option too as a way of teaching children to communicate with those who are deaf/hearing impaired and giving them a life skill that allows them to grow into inclusive and caring adults.<br>Following staff voice and cost review, we've decided on Spanish. We will be reaching out to the AVA/Trust MFL support to discuss once we have a proposed map of the curriculum to best manage gap analysis.<br>2. Do the children with 100% attendance get any recognition e.g. a certificate? It would be nice if it could be recognised as an achievement. Although the parent does understand that this may cause upset with some parents feeling that it isn't fair to those who are off school for illness but feels a certificate is a nice way to recognise the attendance without making it some big reward that others miss out on.<br>Thank you for your feedback. Whilst we no longer award attendance certificates, as previous feedback suggested they were not particularly impactful, we do recognise attendance through our Class Attendance League, where the class with the highest attendance each term receives a reward. We will, however, keep your suggestion in mind as we continue to review how we celebrate attendance achievements. |
| Year One | 1. Some parents/carers raised if summer uniform for boys could be reconsidered. Could a polo shirt be an option in the summer months instead of a shirt and tie? Or allow them to wear PE kit through the summer months without it being stipulated weekly.<br>Top buttons are able to be undone and ties can be removed. We won't consider a polo shirt at this point but uniform in general will be thought of to ensure the best for our pupils.<br>2. It would be really nice if class dojo was a bit more user friendly. At the moment we receive a notification saying "X has received a house point" but we can't see why or any extra info. It asks for payment to use the other features which isn't great for a mandatory school app.<br>As outlined in our previous correspondence, we use ClassDojo primarily as a way of awarding house points and sharing examples of learning that has taken place in the classroom.<br>As also shared previously, ClassDojo is not a mandatory app. It is entirely optional, and parents can choose whether or not to use it.<br>In relation to house points, we do not record specific reasons when awarding them through ClassDojo. As you have identified, providing this level of detail would require access to additional paid features, which we are not asking families to purchase. We are mindful of keeping communication accessible and avoiding any expectation that parents should pay for premium services.<br>We would encourage you to speak with your child about any house points they receive, as they will be able to explain what they were awarded for. We find this can also provide a valuable opportunity for children to share and celebrate their achievements at school with their families.<br>A further benefit of ClassDojo is that it enables teachers to share learning and classroom experiences within a secure platform that is not publicly |

| | |
|---|---|
| | accessible, helping parents remain connected to what is happening in school.<br>1. Some parents/carers feel that it would be helpful if the information provided by SchoolGrid for the school meals could be updated so it is easy to see what the meals contain and what will accompany them. It was also queried as to whether a pudding should be given each day.<br>We have fed this back to HCL and SchoolGrid on numerous occasions to ask for ingredients to be listed as we are aware that they used to be shown. Mrs. Fraser confirmed that she is due to meet with HCL in due course so will raise this again to ask for ingredients to be listed. |
| Year Two | 1. Parents/carers asked if there is a way to remind parents/carers to not reserve spaces with their picnic blankets next year.<br>This is something for us to consider ahead of next years sports day. |
| Year Three | 1. Some parents/carers asked why Reception are not allowed at the summer holidays club held at Green Ridge.<br>The holiday club offer is a private letting and so it is not our position to comment. However, there are strict rules and regulations around Early Years children.<br>2. Parents/carers would like to know if the PTA would be able to fund ways to offer some shade for outdoor play in the hot weather.<br>This has been looked into over previous years which is why a wooden structure was purchased. It is unfortunately too windy on the field for any gazebo type structure but this is something that will be looked into. |
| Year Four | Nothing to raise. |
| Year Five | 1. Some parents/carers felt they couldn't really hear anything during the Year Five assembly. No mics were being used, and there is a loud fan / projector which when combined with ambient noise of younger siblings, nothing really could be heard at all.<br>Microphones are available. Have fed back to all teams that microphones will be part of expectation moving forward.<br>2. Parents/carers gave positive feedback regarding the graffiti workshop. "It's good that they are providing experiences that the kids would not usually do. It was much appreciated to be told when the artwork was planned to be sent home so we could arrange to meet the child at the door if required."<br>Thank you for your feedback. We are glad the children enjoyed the workshop as part of their 11 Before 11 experiences.<br>3. The pizza taste testing was also a big hit - thank you!<br>Thank you for your feedback.<br>4. Parents/carers agree that Spanish is preferred to German.<br>Thank you for your feedback.<br>5. Some parents/carers queried whether the girls could change in the changing rooms for after school clubs. It was mentioned that girls are sent to the toilets to change, and there is not enough cubicles for everyone, meaning that some children have to get changed in the open area in sight of the corridor. The toilets can also be unclean to change in, putting bare feet on toilet floors etc.<br>We do not have changing rooms but will organise a classroom space to be used. The leadership team and I will discuss logistics and put into place as immediately as possible.<br>6. Parents/carers noticed that the home learning grid is online, but children have not received a quiz for a long time. Has this been discontinued?<br>The Year 5 team have confirmed that the quizzes were in the drafts and have not been assigned due to a technical error. A quiz will be available this week for the children to complete. Thank you for bringing to our attention. |

| | |
|---|---|
| | 7. Some parents/carers asked if the walk to school route can be altered as it has stayed the same every year for the last few years.<br>This will be fed back to the team.<br>8. Parents/carers queried how long children have for lunch as some children are saying they only have 10 minutes to eat.<br>It was confirmed that the hall opens at 12.50 and closes at 1.15pm. If parents/carers feel their children need longer than this to eat their lunch then they can discuss this with their class teacher and this will able to be arranges. |
| Year Six | 1. Parents/carers have asked if there is a way that they can provide feedback from residential.<br>Yes, they can email this in to admin@greenridgeacademy.co.uk . |
| Whole School | 1. Feedback was given regarding the use of pupils' images online following a Guardian article about the increasing misuse of children's photographs by AI tools, including the creation of manipulated images from otherwise innocent photos shared on school websites and social media. It made some parents/carers reflect on whether existing approaches to publishing pupils' images remain appropriate in light of this rapidly developing technology. It is appreciated that celebrating children's achievements and sharing school life with families is important, however, it would be valuable to have a conversation about the risks, current safeguards, and whether any changes to practice might be worth considering.<br>As part of digital transformation initiatives, use of AI is a frequent conversation for all REAch2 schools and we have very strict guidelines around what we can currently engage with as a school. As for use of photos, it is parental choice whether they allow photos to go into public domain (i.e. Instagram permission). However, what we can do is in future add information to our permission documents signposting where parents can find out about the risks of this to allow them to make a fully informed decision.<br>2. Parents/carers queried whether there is a process and trigger regarding extreme weather closures? Some parents/carers felt this would be helpful to know in future so that plans can be made if it looks like the weather will reach those triggers.<br>It is very challenging to meet the needs and ideals of everyone and this isn't a typical situation for us to encounter. We do not anticipate further full closures, regardless of what local schools do, as per guidance from our trust and from learning in the moment. We will always communicate what measures we have in place and hope that there will be further provision discussed at trust level moving forward, such as potential plans for air conditioning. Ultimately, there is only so much we can do – much of which mirrors what children will have in the home setting and we will always prioritise children's physical safety and wellbeing.<br>There is not a current maximum temperature that means we have to close but we will be proactive to keep our children safe and happy at home.<br>3. Some parents/carers felt they were notified quite late in the day and sorting out childcare was then tricky and some people heard from council updates that the school was closed rather than the school first.<br>We will bare this in mind in future but will always communicate as early and as clearly as possible. |
| Positive Feedback | 1. Positive feedback from parents/carers about timely marking of Home Learning<br>2. Positive feedback for allowing children to school later after the football match.<br>3. It is appreciated that children have the option of wearing PE kit on warm days. |

| | |
|---|---|
| | 4. A lot of people have provided positive feedback regarding the summer fete. The change of day to a Friday and the offering were very well received.<br>5. Positive feedback was received for sports day and the organisation and management of the day.<br>6. Reception parents/carers gave positive feedback of the two transition mornings and appreciated the children have had the two sessions. |
| Feedback from the school | We've had a number of incidents reported to us recently that suggest our Parent/Carer Code of Conduct social media expectations are being disregarded. Please note the following:<br>Parents/carers should adhere to the following guidelines when using closed class/year-group WhatsApp or Facebook groups:<br>• The group should never be used as a platform to air views/grievances regarding a teacher, child or parent/carer in the class or school<br>• The group is not a political platform for airing opinions on current affairs<br>• The group should be used keeping in mind mutual respect and cultural sensitivity between all its members<br>Please note, the school considers the following online activity inappropriate:<br>• Abusive or personal comments about staff, pupils or other parents/carers or any member of the school's community<br>• Displays of anger including swearing, or using offensive language<br>• Bringing the school into disrepute<br>• Posting aggressive, defamatory, or libellous comments<br>• Emails circulated or sent directly with abusive or personal comments about staff, pupils or any member of the schools' community<br>• Using social media to publicly challenge school policies or discuss issues about individual children<br>• Threatening behaviour, such as verbally intimidating staff, or using bad language |
| Next Meeting | Wednesday 23rd September, 9:00am |