



Parent Forum Meeting Minutes

Date	Thursday, 22 nd May at 2.15pm			
Attendees:				
	<i>Name</i>	Year Group	Class	Attended
	Mrs. Fraser	Headteacher		✓
	Mr. Ladyman	Deputy Headteacher		✗
	Mrs. Curtis-Cross	Office Co-Ordinator		✓
	Lalinhika Alvares	Nursery	Little Berries	✗
	Gemma Moncada	Nursery	Little Pines	✓
	Adina Carda			✓
	Sonali Patil	Nursery	Little Acorns	✗
	Kunal Prasad	Reception	Birch	✗
	Rachel Hopkins			✗
	Siobhan Connolly	Reception	Hazel	✓
	Sharon Patterson	Reception	Willow	✓
	Uma Macarov			✗
	Sannah Khan	Year One	Beech	✓
	<i>Vacant</i>	Year One	Elm	
	Sophie Baker	Year One	Lime	✓
	Richard Rangel	Year Two	Oak	✗
	Laurilee Green	Year Two	Plane	✗
	Rhiannon Witney	Year Two	Spruce	✓
	Neesha Paik			✗
	Neesha Paik	Year Three	Alder	✗
	Holly Fox	Year Three	Cedar	✗
	Sharon Patterson	Year Four	Ash	✓
	Kamila Dawson	Year Four	Rowan	✗
	Laura Nunn			✓
	<i>Vacant</i>	Year Five	Maple	
Laurilee Green	Year Five	Sycamore	✗	
<i>Vacant</i>	Year Six	Aspen		
Jayne Bendell	Year Six	Hawthorn	✗	

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

	Agenda Item	Discussion/actions
1	<p>Feedback</p> <p>Stay and Play/Learn, Book Look and Library sessions</p> <p>As you know, we offer a range of opportunities across the</p>	<p>Year One Class Feedback</p> <p>1. The majority of Year One parents/carers would prefer for these sessions to take place in the afternoon, at the end of the school day to minimise children becoming unsettled when parents/carers leave.</p>

	<p>academic year for parents/carers to visit and be involved in learning. We would appreciate your feedback on the effectiveness of these sessions, and would like a consensus on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What time is most suitable for you? • How frequently would you like them to happen? • Do you prefer Stay and Play/Learn, Book Look and Library sessions? 	<p>2. Could the school consider splitting phases as its hard for parents/carers to visit different classes if they have multiple children.</p> <p>Year Two Oak Class Feedback</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The vast majority of the parents and carers from Oak prefer to have the stay and learn sessions at the beginning of the day (80%). Those who prefer afternoon sessions (generally, the final lesson of the day) cite working commitments as the primary reason for being unable to attend in the mornings. 2. Stay and Learn sessions are preferred over other options. 3. In general, all parents and carers would prefer more sessions throughout the year with a 50/50 split between once per half term and once per full term.
AOB	<p>Aspirations Curriculum</p> <p>As part of our plans for 2025/26, we are developing our Aspirations Curriculum. This involves exposing our children to various careers and industries throughout their time at Green Ridge, in the hope of inspiring them for the future world of work. We would like to create a bank of volunteers from a range of sectors who would be willing to come in and educate our children about their industry at a point in the year when it links specifically to the curriculum, i.e. healthcare during a Year Four science lesson about teeth, or engineering and manufacturing when Year Six are learning about the industrial revolution in history. If you fall into a category below, and would like to offer support, make contact via email to admin@greenridgeacademy.co.uk or FAO of Mr. Arnold.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and Social Care • Construction • Agriculture • Information Technology • Retail • Energy • Marketing and Advertising • Media • Transportation • Food • Finance • Manufacturing 	<p>Year Two Oak Class Feedback</p> <p>The plan for aspiration in the curriculum is generally well received. I didn't provide details, so no questions other than they'd like to hear more when the school is ready to share.</p>
AOB	Little Pips Playgroup	

	<p>We are hoping to relaunch our Little Pips Playgroup for our soon-to-be Green Ridgers, but due to staffing capacity this isn't something in which we can continue to run ourselves. We are therefore looking for someone externally to run it and it be treated like a letting in which our facilities will be accessible at an agreed time. It would be appreciated if reps could share this wider, and if it's of interest to anyone, please ask them to initially make contact via email to admin@greenridgeacademy.co.uk FAO of Mrs. Fraser and Miss. Dilks.</p>	
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<i>Issues raised from parents/carers on the online feedback and from the meeting</i>	
Nursery	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Will the children go on any short trips, e.g., a local walk or visit to the local shops? Trips look very different in nursery as we have legal ratios that change once we leave the premises. For 3-4 year olds the ratio is 1-13 on site, however when taken off site it goes to 1-4 meaning it would make it very hard to rely on so many volunteers. 2. What baking/cooking do the children do in nursery? Is there a way that photos of these sorts of activities can be shared via Tapestry and not just on X as many parents/carers don't use X. Baking/cooking is something we do perhaps once a term as an enhancement to an element of learning that is taking place. Although we do take photos as seen on X, it is also treated as any other enhanced activity, e.g. visiting the school library. Due to the nature of this type of activity, we cannot prioritise taking photos of the activity over supporting the children. We also cannot take another member of staff from provision to take photos as this takes an adult from supporting another group with their chosen activity.
Reception	
Year One	
Year Two	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parents/ carers require more notice if selected as volunteers for trips. Due to short notice, several parents/carers were no longer able to help due to work commitments which could have been avoided if they were informed with plenty of notice. Firstly, we would like to take the opportunity to apologise, and we can assure you that this is something in which is being reviewed ahead of next year. Unfortunately, we're limited to how much notice we can give, as the deadline to sign children up and put your name forward to volunteer is two weeks before. With that being said, parents/carers must be mindful of this and therefore only put their name forward if they're going to be in a position to help with limited notice being provided. 2. Year Two SATs – While it is understood that these are no longer compulsory, the general consensus is that parents/carers would have liked to have received some communication regarding arrangements for SATs. KS1 assessments became non-mandatory in 2023 following national changes aimed at reducing statutory testing in primary schools. As the results are no longer externally reported, we did not notify parents/carers in advance. These assessments are used solely to inform teacher

	<p>judgement - just as we do with assessments in the autumn and spring terms across the school.</p> <p>3. Following the letter sent to parents/carers on Tuesday regarding the change of times for the multi-skills festival on Friday 13th June, parents/carers are concerned that children won't be eating until late. Considering the children usually eat at 11.45am-12.00pm, parents/carers are worried about the children getting tired, bothered, hungry and this then affecting behaviour and emotions whilst out representing the school. Is there not a way in which the children can take food with them to the event, as they would a school trip, so they can eat during a break whilst there? Or eat lunch early before leaving and then have snacks once back at school?</p> <p>We appreciate your concerns, and we agree that the time changes are far from ideal, but this is sadly out of our control. We of course have considered allowing the children to eat prior to leaving but given that they are taking part in a sports event, we don't think it's particularly wise. As per the letter, we have encouraged parents/carers to provide extra snacks to which the children will eat prior to leaving and will then eat their lunch promptly upon their return. As they are only at the event for a short period of time, time for lunch simply isn't an option.</p> <p>4. Spruce class didn't post as many photos on X as the other Year Two classes during the recent school trip.</p> <p>This will be fed back to the Year Two team.</p> <p>5. Is there a way that spellings can be shared with parents/carers?</p> <p>We'll ask the team if there is anything in which can be shared on the school website.</p>
Year Three	<p>1. The whiteboard pens that are used are not washable, and it seems that sometimes children like to draw on each other. Parents/carers have agreed to speak to their children about not drawing on others, but could the pens be made washable as they do not come out of the white school shirts.</p> <p>Mrs. Fraser is happy to confirm that she has been looking in to perhaps purchasing whiteboard pencils as opposed to pens in the future. Until this is decided, we will be more vigilant and will continue to have conversations around not drawing on each other.</p>
Year Four	<p>1. Concern from a parent/carer that "bad behaviour from boys is impacting girls unfairly, e.g. they cannot choose who they sit next to on the coach for swimming. Parents/carers understand that Green Ridge doesn't support whole-class punishments, so could this be looked at as it seems unfair for the children who are behaving appropriately?".</p> <p>This is a generalisation and there is not 'bad behaviour from boys', however, if teachers decide to change seating arrangements, it needs to be trusted that it is for the best interest of class. This can be communicated to the children.</p> <p>2. A publisher file within recent homework set doesn't work, nor are children receiving feedback.</p> <p>This will be fed back to the Year Four team.</p> <p>3. Is the change of residential trip in Year Six permanent?</p> <p>Yes, the children will no longer be going to the Isle of Wight.</p>
Year Five	<p>1. In a previous meeting (28/01/2025) it was asked if the school would consider changing the chosen language taught as some of the local secondary schools do not teach German and the majority of children will go there. Are there any plans to make the change or have any discussions been had within school as parents/carers understand this will be something that will take some time to change over?</p> <p>We appreciate the point raised but is not something that can be considered for the next academic year. A new curriculum will require</p>

	<p>money and training, neither of which we have capacity for currently. Parents have questioned whether it could be just for KS2, which isn't an option due to progression requirements. However, it will be a discussion point for GR 3-year plans.</p> <p>2. Parents/carers are still asking how the book tokens works. This was previously raised within another meeting and reps were told that communication would be sent containing further information, but this hasn't yet been sent. Can something be sent to manage parents/carers expectations.</p> <p>Below is what was shared within the minutes dated 28/01/2025, but we will also ensure that a separate letter is sent.</p> <p><i>Mr. Ladyman explained that we're encouraging children to develop a lifelong love of reading by recognising their efforts with special reading tokens. Here's a few ways children can earn one:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Regular Reading at Home – Consistent reading outside of school is key.</i> • <i>Active Participation in Class Discussions – Sharing thoughts and ideas about books.</i> • <i>Sharing Home Reading with Classmates – Talking about books they've enjoyed.</i> • <i>Helping with the Library and Reading Areas – Keeping reading spaces neat and welcoming.</i> • <i>Contributing to Reading Lessons – Engaging in reading activities with enthusiasm.</i> • <i>Respecting Books and Materials – Taking care of schoolbooks and library resources.</i> • <i>Demonstrating Positive Reading Habits – Showing excitement for reading.</i> • <i>Encouraging Other Readers – Recommending books to friends.</i> • <i>Taking Part in Reading Events – Joining school-wide reading competitions and events.</i> <p>3. Parents/carers have asked if something can be done about the entrance and gate by the Reception drop off area as it is often very difficult to get past. With the school continuing to grow, parents/carers are concerned about it getting even busier.</p> <p><i>It can be busy, but we want parents/carers to know that they can speak to the teacher, which we see as a positive. The alternative is to not allow this and to have children walked straight in, which we want to avoid.</i></p> <p>4. There is regularly a large group of children playing football against the side of the building, making it hard and dangerous for people to walk past. There is also a lot of children on mobile phones before school, including filming each other, which would be a possible safeguarding concern.</p> <p><i>Thank you for bringing this to our attention. Children within Upper Key Stage Two should already be aware that they are not to be on their phones whilst on the school grounds, but we'll be sure to communicate with the children accordingly to prevent this from happening and to discourage them from playing football going forward.</i></p>
Year Six	<p>1. The Year Six leavers assembly was due to be the on 23rd of July which is now an INSET day. When will communication be sent informing parents/carers of the new date to enable parents/carers to book time off work if necessary?</p> <p><i>Correspondence will be sent after half term (at the beginning of June), which will also include further information regarding other leavers celebrations. We can however confirm that the leavers assembly will take place on the afternoon of Tuesday, 22nd July.</i></p>

Whole School	<p>1. Letters are usually sent out on Tuesdays and Thursdays - Has this been changed as over the last few weeks parents/carers have received letters most days which has meant things have been missed.</p> <p>Where possible we try and only send correspondence on a Tuesday and Thursday, and our weekly newsletter and any PTA correspondence on a Friday. Understandably we will of course communicate on other days should there be a need, i.e. informing you of cases of head lice or chicken pox etc.</p> <p>2. When a parent/carers offers to volunteer on a trip, how long will it take for them to be confirmed as going?</p> <p><i>Answered with the Year Two section</i></p>
Positive Feedback	<p>👍 Positive feedback regarding the Year Six SATs preparation this year – Worked better with the different ability groups.</p> <p>★ The children had a lovely time at the recent Year Four Hampton Court Palace trip – Thanks to all the staff!</p>

Next Meeting	Friday, 11 th July at 9.00am
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