

Parent Forum meeting 24 June 2016

Present: Clare (School) Gwen (School) Jo (School) Joey (Governors) Carol (6) Andy (5) Sarah (5) Lynne (4) Claudi (3) Amit (3) Liz (2) Katie (1)

Year 6 students Abby, Isla, Margot

Apologies: Natalia, Felicity, Alice

Review from last meeting

Cake sales – Still need to encourage parents to bring cake or other produce.

School Strategy - Survey results analysed and passed to the governors who are coming up with an action plan.

Music – We are very enthusiastic about music at school and looking forward to recorder and starter orchestra recitals, senior orchestra and soloists evening and Guitar recital. See school calendar for dates <http://westoxfordschool.co.uk/school-calendar/>

Library

We were joined by 3 of the year 6 Librarians who explained how the Library works.

4 Librarians tidy the Library every day except Friday; they check in and put back on shelves books in the returned box and sort out issues for any books in the problems box.

Classes use the Library throughout the week, where the staff should ensure books borrowed are entered into the Library system. KS2 Children can also use the library at lunch times.

There are a lot of overdue books, so please bring back any you have at home. Sometimes books get put back on shelves and not in the returned box so a book can look like it is still on loan when it is back. Sometimes books can be replaced, if you do this please make sure school know so the new book can have the correct labels and entered into the Library system.

The Librarians are going to write up details of how the Library works for the next year 6.

Sports & Additional outdoor provision

School have been asked about Gymnastics club, but this is not something Oxford Active offer and although Mrs Whiting has tried to find someone it is difficult to find someone to run a gymnastics club as it requires specialist skills to teach gymnastics.

Do have a look at the noticeboard just to the right as you go through reception which has pictures and details of recent sport activity so helps to encourage the children in this area. You can also find details on the school website <http://westoxfordschool.co.uk/category/latest-news/>

It is great that we have 2 new sports clubs of Yoga and basketball starting. If anyone wants to run any other sporting clubs then please get in touch with school.

Sport in the school is very strong and we have 57 children entering the Oxford half marathon.

Thanks to Gwen Whiting for her co-ordination of all the sporting events.

School Dinners

Ruth has to keep a balance of meals across the school menu keeping within many regulations and guidelines while providing a range of food and accommodating a number of dietary requirements.

If you have suggestions for the menu please do go and see Ruth, Suggestions of less puddings and more veggie options have been raised and Ruth reminded us how the children tend to vote with their feet. Some of the vegetarian options are very popular but she is keen to be able to offer a choice.

E-Safety/ Concerns over language used by students

There have been concerns over some of the language being used by students and the issues of Internet safety and use of social media. The school already do work in this area with the children in PHSE. Some parents would find it helpful to know what is being taught in these sessions. School is only one source of information parents will answer children's questions at home and children do like to share.

Previous e safety talks have been very poorly attended, but the school and parents were concerned over the issues of internet safety and social media. The school will look to run another session on this at the start of the next school year and we should encourage as many parents to attend as possible as well as getting information from school it will be good to share thoughts on this area.

Thanks to all the parent forum reps we know a few of them will not be able to do the role next year so please do step forward if you could take on this role. Many classes have the role shared so you do not need to attend every meeting. Meetings are 6 times a year on Friday mornings from drop off until 10.15am. The next meeting will be 7th October

Other questions/points and answers

1 What is the plan for teaching ICT and languages to Key Stage 2 pupils? *Not ICT, but Computing, and Languages are currently taught to KS2 pupils and teaching will continue next year.*

2 What has happened to Athletics? *There will be a letter issued about the future of Athletics at the end of this month.*

3 Can an outdoor clock be installed? *Yes, and will go before Friends for sourcing and funding.*

4 Can there be a high net over all of the AstroTurf? *Again, to be put to Friends.*

5 Could we put a gate somewhere in the fence between playground and scooter storage, so children can pick up/drop off scooters more easily? At the moment they have to leave the school through the front gate and go round? *There are plans for this.*

6 Are there any plans for more toilets upstairs? *Again, there are plans and funding is being sought.*

7 What is the frequency of the newsletter/WOW learner publication now? *See also point 1 in **Other questions/points and answers in the Parent Forum Minutes for January 22nd 2016** – ‘The Newsletter is produced monthly and includes information of forthcoming events and dates. WOW learners are celebrated in their classes and receive a certificate. Here is the link to the current Newsletter for June*

<http://westoxfordschool.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/June-Newsletter-2016.pdf>

8 Can we have an idea of how the parent survey will be reviewed and by whom? Will parents be able to see the outcome? *With questionnaires completed, results will first go to the Governors who will look after publication.*