



## St. Anne's C.E. (VC) Primary School

"Making Learning a Life Long Friend"

### PARENT FORUM MEETING

THURSDAY, 23<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER 2017

### MINUTES

#### Present: -

Mr. Steve Martin (Parent Governor), Aimee Rosson (Teacher Governor), Beth Roberts (Daniel Jamieson Year 4), Mrs Boulton (Year 4), Miss Knight (Mya Adams Year 3), Mrs Meakin (Freddie Meakin (Reception) and Harry Meakin (Year 3), Mrs Poole (Sam Poole Year 5), Barbara Owen (Daniel Owen Year 3), Mrs Verney (Nathan Verney Year 4), Nathaniel Ashman (Year 4), Mrs Pope (Ellie Pope Year 3 and Ben Pope Year 5) and Patrick Dale (Year 1) and one other

#### Apologies:-

Mrs Cawley (Andy Cawley Year 2) Toni Lymer-Reeves (Daisy Lymer Year 4)

#### Homework

From discussion in the Forum it was very clear there was a lack of consistency with Homework in Year groups. This was particularly evident in Spellings - as some year groups had them each week and some year groups did not. From Parents Evening discussions some teachers were talking about how Spellings were being taught using RWI (Read Write Inc methods). However, has anything been sent out or has a meeting been put in place to explain these strategies to parents. The Year Groups that were not evidently having Spellings (Year 3 and 4) parents felt frustrated with all the effort that they put in for Phonics why is this not continued? However, it was also voiced that in Year 5 and 6 the spellings were sometimes unmanageable - for example a long list is sent out but they do not always have time to do these spellings.

Parents liked the idea of a maths book being sent out - would this include Methods that have been taught to the children so that when they are supporting their child they understand the method that has been taught. This would help the heated debates that often take place when doing homework.

It was discussed that sometimes Parents do not know whether this should be something that should be done on their own or should be done with support. Perhaps a key could be put in place so Parents know what this should be. Homework - it was agreed should be something

that consolidates their child's learning not because they have not been able to finish it in the lesson.

Online homework - this has been particularly enjoyable for the children especially the Active Learn (Maths). However, this has not been continued in each year group. Please may log in information be sent out to parents again especially for the Active Learn, Spelldrone and Mathletics so that the children can access it again. It was discussed in Key Stage 2 particularly that they give an overview of homework for the half term on this sheet could it also be evident what the online games that will be available for these weeks as well.

### **Parents Pay**

Mr Martin talked about what Parents Pay is. It was discussed that this would be beneficial for school trips. But some parents were not completely happy with this for lunches and would prefer to continue the way it is. There was also discussion about what this would cost the school and would people lose their job if this was to happen? Would this be something that would be rolled out to Kids Club?

### **Safety on the Key Stage 2 Playground:-**

It was agreed by all parents that they do not feel completely safe about the gates not all being locked. Parents felt that having a buzzer on the gate was a good idea. However, they suggested that maybe there could be an alarm near Miss Turner's and Mr Hobson's office in case Mrs Rosson was not in her office. Mrs Boulton suggested that she spoke to the Parish Council to see if they could offer some money towards getting the gate and the buzzer sorted.

From this we discussed the entertainment on the playgrounds and shared about the Playground leaders on the Key Stage One playground and how we have an outside agency coming to the Key Stage two play ground during the week. This is something that parents think should be shared on the Newsletter as it is something that makes St Anne's stand out from other schools.

From this a discussion took place about Wet break times and what happens. Do we need to send a plea out asking for games for the classrooms so they can have more up to date and exciting wet games break times? Also children should not be asked to sit in silence during the lunchtime.

### **Ties**

It was discussed as this came from School Council then this is something that should be done. Parents thought it would be a good idea to have it compulsory in Key Stage 2 and then have it optional in Key Stage 1 which will probably turn into more of them having them. Parents were worried about when this would be taking place and whether or not the round necked jumpers would be allowed for a certain amount of time. For example if a child is in Year 5 at the moment would they be allowed to wear a round necked jumper with a tie and a shirt underneath. There was a discussion about if the children could still wear a polo shirt with the tie as some children may feel uncomfortable in it. If ties were introduced to the school discussions would have to take place about the correct behaviour of wearing a tie.

This led on nicely to Lost Property and it was suggested that at the Christmas Fair. Lost Property is put out so that Parents could help themselves if it has not been collected. Would look nice on hangers make it look more appealing.

### School Finishing Times

*School starting times* - Some parents agreed that this was better as parking was a little easier. However, because of an earlier starting time some parents are still worried about the safety some parents travel too quickly. Ideas were suggested to make it better by making it a one - way/ getting a zebra crossing/ having hard hitting posters that have been made by the children/ Name and shame people who park illegally on the Newsletter/ children putting notes on the cars about where it is safe to park. Is there no chance we could get a Lollipop Lady?

What happens in the first ten minutes of school? Do the children have to come in and sit in silence or are they still having Social interaction with their friends as this is time that they are losing on the playground in the mornings?

We discussed about getting rid of the Afternoon play time. However, people were not overly keen on this as this will mean that the children are having less time with their friends. It was agreed that a good idea was perhaps to have it left to the teachers' discretion where if they have finished what they have done then they can take the class out. However, would it be worth looking at having the worship at the different for example at the end of the school day. This was discussed how this used to be the case but not all classes left at the correct time.

Finishing time - This was felt that would not be a good thing as many of the parents were picking up older siblings from Endon High.

### Any Other Business

- Lunches - Is there always enough food at the end of the lunch time for the children to have a jacket Potato. Do they have to order a Jacket potato at the start of the day?
- More communication from teacher - Can teachers email Parents the different things. This was suggested that a good way to do this was to email the office and then this would be passed on to the relevant people.
- Text messages are brilliant but could we celebrate children's work more by having a School App and means that communication can be more evident.
- Newsletters/ letters in general - is there a way that either the oldest siblings or the youngest siblings get the letters so that there are not multi letters going home to the same family?
- Short cancellation of clubs - Can teachers be more mindful? If there is a last minute cancellation of clubs are children guaranteed to get a place in Kids Club or are the children able to stay with the teacher who is taking the session until half past 4. When the club would be finished?
- It was suggested that the next meeting perhaps Mr Hobson and another teacher would like to attend the Forum.

- Lunchtime Supervisors - Is there going to be training in place for them to make sure that they are speaking to the children appropriately and are giving the children the attention that they need if they are injured?
- Kids Club - Praise was in place for Kids Club to make sure that the children are fully engaged and getting the most out of their time in the Club.
- Links with other schools: Have we got links with Special Schools or Inner City Schools to make sure that we are getting diversity?
- Can we a more dyslexia Friendly School?
- Autism Awareness Day
- Skills shared - Keeping it Local - Can we have a list of all the Parents Skills so that we can keep any jobs that people do local so we can use them?
- Volunteers - We need more volunteer readers.
- PTFA - More people are needed for this? At the New Parents Meeting in June for Reception could we have a Spokesman about what they do and how we can make it better.
- Family Tree - Could we have a Family Tree on the website about all the Governors and how they have been elected and what they are responsible for? Utilise the skills of the Governors more?
- Health + Safety
- Safeguarding



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