

Parent Forum

11/02//2020

09:15am

Tranmere Park Primary School

Chair	Alison Hodgson
Minutes	Mark Howorth
Attendees	Kuldeep Bagri (Bluebirds) Eleanor Moss (Robins) Lucy Owen (Eagles) Joanne Vine (Skylarks) Kaneez Kishver (Kingfishers) David Wright (Woodpeckers) Sam Goodison (Woodpeckers) Helen Careford (Falcons/Doves) Kylee Marsden (Eagles) Jo Perkins (Woodpeckers) Liz Worley (Puffins) Fanny Walters (Doves)

Apologies

Claire Armstrong (Doves)
Jodie Davis (Bluebirds)
Eleanor Moss (Robins)
Francesca Lewis-Calzado (Skylarks)
Ali Bull (Red Kites)
Joanne Cooke (Falcons)

Minutes

Agenda item: Celebrations and Concerns

Presenter: All Attendees

Discussion:

Each class provides feedback from parents within each class.

Bluebirds/Robins

Class Celebrations/Concerns	General/School-wide Celebrations/Concerns
<p>Many thanks for all of the organising and to all of the staff for the trip to Skipton Castle. The children really learnt a lot.</p> <p><i>REPLY – Many thanks, we are glad that the children enjoyed it.</i></p> <p>Could the Parent Workshop dates be given out with a little more notice</p>	<p>There are no pavements around the estate which make it difficult for children to scooter to school.</p> <p><i>REPLY - we are aware of the lack of pavements around the estate and it is difficult for the scooter users at this time of year, but we are unable to change this.</i></p>

REPLY - We will try to provide as much notice as we can do when event such as this are confirmed and booked.

Eagles –

Class Celebrations/Concerns	General/School-wide Celebrations/Concerns
<p>We really enjoyed the drop-in session and it's really nice seeing the children using the new books.</p> <p><i>REPLY: Many thanks! It's great for us to show the parents what we are up to in class.</i></p> <p>We are all really happy with the progress the kids are making</p> <p><i>REPLY: Thank you, that's really nice to hear!</i></p>	<p>Smart Watches (see below)</p> <p>With smart watches being banned, could the daily mile be reinstated?</p> <p><i>REPLY - We will look into this and we have other activities being planned for the children to take part in during break times such as cheerleading and dancing.</i></p> <p>There have been some children in school uniform making a Tik Tok video outside the school gates on a mobile phone. This captured others and probably part of the school. Please can you advise children of the need to be aware of their surroundings and to be aware of what is going on around them.</p> <p><i>REPLY - We are carrying out some assemblies this week about safer internet use and will advise the children suitably.</i></p>

Smart Watches - the following discussion took place about the watches with the whole group taking part.

The school has a mobile phone policy that outlines the school's position on mobile phones for pupils. With regards to smart watches, there are now many different makes and functions and some watches now have SIM cards meaning they can make and receive calls, messages and can be used as a phone can be.

Teaching staff cannot check the functionality of each watch or know the difference between makes and models of watches. For safeguarding purposes of all of the children in school, we have made the decision to ban smart watches.

I agree with the banning of smart watches, but the issue is penalising kids that just want to wear a watch.

Children may still wear a watch, but if it resembles a smart watch, teachers will not know the difference and may ask your child to remove it.

Primary school kids don't need to monitor their steps, these types of watches were designed for sedentary grown-ups to get them active. The kids don't need these extra pressures on them about how many steps they've walked or how much activity they have done.

A lot of kids were bought them as Christmas presents and this is one of the reasons parents are upset but they are the current trend and the children will move on from them. They can wear them outside of school and in the holidays.

We have vulnerable children in school and to ensure safeguarding measures are in place, the ban is necessary.

They can be a distraction - mine reminds me to move every hour, so I can understand it.

Can we sign a disclosure agreement to say that the watch does not have the particular features so that our child can continue to wear it.

We have made the decision because staff are unable to identify, know or check the functions of the watches. Our mobile phone policy states that children must hand in their phones at the start of the day and can collect them at the end of the day. This is for the same reason as the ban on smart watches.

Should it not be the same for the staff? I have been told some of the staff have phones on their desks and are using them in school

They're adults and teachers - it has to be different for them

We have a Code of Conduct for our staff which has a very clear section about mobile phones. All of our staff have agreed to the terms and conditions of the Code of Conduct and any breaches of this would be taken very seriously.

Can the Parent Forum be consulted before decisions like this are made?

We will consult the parent forum wherever we can, but sometimes we just have to make decisions. This was one of those occasions.

Skylarks

Class Celebrations/Concerns	General/School-wide Celebrations/Concerns
<p>We are all excited by the new books and a big thank you and well done for Miss Bell getting soaked!</p> <p><i>REPLY - She is a good sport! For a few years, Miss Bell has said that if all of the year one children in her class get all of their spellings right she would take a soaking! All of the year one's this year have passed their spellings and Miss Bell was true to her words! We're glad the children enjoyed it and well done to the year one's!</i></p>	

Hérons –

Class Celebrations/Concerns	General/School-wide Celebrations/Concerns
All ok, thanks	

Red Kites

Class Celebrations/Concerns	General/School-wide Celebrations/Concerns
Thank you to Miss Ingram for a great assembly	

Woodpeckers –

Class Celebrations/Concerns	General/School-wide Celebrations/Concerns
All ok, thanks	

Wrens – No representative from Wrens is currently in the forum. Interested? Please contact the school office!

Falcons –

Class Celebrations/Concerns	General/School-wide Celebrations/Concerns
	Are the children dressing up for World Book Day? Have

	<p>school considered a costume swap before?</p> <p><i>REPLY - The reading team are putting out the plans for World Book Day this week! A costume swap is a great idea - we will put details on this week's Tranmere Times for the first week back after half term.</i></p> <p>Thanks for the stranger information in recent times - what is being said in school to the children?</p> <p><i>REPLY - We have continued to do stranger danger in classes and have carried out some internet safety assemblies and are balancing advising without terrifying.</i></p> <p>Is there a reason for the gates on the steps as children are being hit with the football as they cross the football pitch.</p> <p><i>REPLY - We have a wheelchair user in school who accesses the top playground and for their safety, the gates were put up in the summer. We are looking at a more suitable and substantial solution. As to being hit with the football, we have not been aware of anyone being hit whilst crossing the pitch on the playground and will monitor this in case we have to delay the footballers from kicking off until everyone is on the playground.</i></p>
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Puffins –

Class Celebrations/Concerns	General/School-wide Celebrations/Concerns
The Ingleborough information night was great, thank you	

Kingfishers

Class Celebrations/Concerns	General/School-wide Celebrations/Concerns
	<p>There was an email sent regarding smart watches and the reply was not satisfactory</p> <p><i>REPLY - The reply was sent to acknowledge receipt of the email. The decision to ban smart watches had already been made and the office was not in a position to individually reply regarding specific examples or matters.</i></p>

Doves –

Class Celebrations/Concerns	General/School-wide Celebrations/Concerns
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	<p>Can a different solution be found for the steps on the playground?</p> <p><i>REPLY - Yes - we are looking into the options but these are dependant on costs and budget</i></p> <p>There are still dogs on the playground</p> <p><i>REPLY - We have made numerous requests to ask people not to bring dogs to school - either securing them to the fences or carrying them into school. Again, we would ask all parents or carers to leave dogs at home.</i></p>
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Agenda item: Update from Headteacher **Presenter:** A. HODGSON

Discussion:

AH updated the PF with progress on the actions from the previous Parent Forum.

The PF were consulted about Special Mention information on the Tranmere Times. The proposal was that the reason for the Special Mention award will be taken off the Tranmere Times - and children will be given a postcard providing the reason for the award which they can then take home. The PF agreed to this and this will start after February half term.

AH stated that at the parent consultation evening in March, there will be an opportunity for parents to provide their opinion as to what the school curriculum offering should be. This is the curriculum that feeds through from Reception to Year 6. Current curriculum topics include sustainability, food for life and mindfulness. Please keep your eyes open for your chance to help shape the curriculum for our children.

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
<i>No Actions Required</i>		

Completed	Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
X	Explore options for reproduction of photo for EYFS	M HOWORTH	Friday 10th Jan
X	Speak to kitchen about desserts and last class	M HOWORTH	Friday 20th Dec
	Inform parents if class going off site	M HOWORTH	As necessary
	Monitor the bus for swimming	M HOWORTH	Ongoing
X	Share an information handout about TT Rockstars	B SUTTON	February 2020
X	Speak to Year 6 Volunteer about Banana Board	R SAVAGE	Friday 20th Dec

Other Information

The next Parent Forum will take place on Tuesday 31st March 2020