



Willowbrook Primary School Parent Council Meeting

Friday 29th November, 2024, 9.30am

Attendees: Mrs Branton (Headteacher) Mrs Hounslow (Holly Class), Mrs Williams (Elm Class), Mrs Wistow (Beech Class), Mrs Brown (Chestnut Class), Mrs Bradley (Pine Class), Mrs O’Grady (Oak Class).

Apologies: Mrs Walmsley (Whitebeam Class)

Item	Notes	Action
General Parent Council points	<p>CB explained that in future she will link the direction of the Parent Council with the school development plan and policies.</p> <p>Where appropriate, parents are encouraged to speak directly to the class teacher to resolve any issues quickly. This can sometimes be facilitated by the Parent Council member for the class.</p>	<p>CB to share information about this with the school community in January. Also channels of communication will be made clear.</p>
School Site Manager	<p>Steve is the new site manager for the present time.</p>	<p>CB to communicate this.</p>
Homework/DB Primary	<p>It was asked whether homework could be printed out as not all students have a printer at home.</p> <p>It was also asked whether the school could use ‘booklets’ for homework as used in other schools instead of DB Primary. CB explained that these booklets will not always align with the lessons being taught in the classroom and do not allow for differentiation of homework between more or less able students.</p> <p>It was noted that there is no ability to comment on KS2 homework in DB Primary any longer (previously had traffic lights and comment box for student to note how they found the work)</p> <p>Homework should always be uploaded by class teachers on Friday</p>	<p>Parent Council to approach each class via WhatsApp and produce a list of people who genuinely don’t have access to printers. Teachers will then provide printouts where the work requires it (eg cutting out exercises). Often only the answers need to be written out so printing is not always necessary.</p> <p>CB to investigate homework books in terms of suitability and cost.</p> <p>CB to investigate if the comment box can be reinstated.</p> <p>CB to remind teachers</p>
Online communication tool	<p>It was suggested that the school could move to an online communication tool which would log positive as well as negative points for the children.</p>	<p>CB stated that this would be too onerous on staff.</p>



Year 5 homework	It was suggested that homework in Year 5 could be stepped up in readiness for the work done in Year 6 for the SATS.	CB agreed to look into increasing homework towards the end of Year 5 perhaps.
Behaviour	It was raised that on occasion, a child has been hit by another child during the day at school but neither set of parents is made aware of this.	CB stated that any incident like this would necessitate a 'red card' and would result in a phone call from her to both sets of parents.
Twitter/X	It was noted that photos are not being put on Twitter/X as frequently as they should be (one set of photos per class per week).	CB will speak to staff to remind them to get photos in for uploading on time.
Lunch	The catering company is currently losing money as not enough school dinners are being taken.	Parent Council asked to remind parents to encourage children to take up school dinners. It is possible for children to try a meal (as well as bringing their packed lunch).
School money	It was noted that Apple Pay can be used to settle payments for clubs but not school dinners. It was also asked whether payments for Nativity/ Xmas show tickets could be done online instead of cash.	CB to investigate although likely moving to a new provider soon. CB to investigate although likely too much work involved (and transaction charges) for the £1 cost of tickets.
Reception staggered start	It was noted that the start for Reception class was staggered over a longer period this year and some parents found this rather difficult to manage. CB stated that this was the best format for this year and it was acknowledged that it will not always be possible to please everyone.	None
January dates on newsletter	It was requested that the calendar dates for January are included in the newsletter as soon as possible.	CB to arrange
Maths packs	It was noted that maths packs are no longer being completed by the children. CB explained that this involved a large amount of work for a member of staff and it didn't have a big enough impact for the children's learning outcomes.	CB to speak to SLT.
Sports events	It was noted that parents are sometimes given short notice about outside sports events. CB explained that sometimes the school is not given much notice about these events, or	None



	perhaps a child does not wish to participate and so a replacement is sought which obviously leads to a delay	
Dogs	It was noted that several parents are bringing dogs to the school gate and these dogs are being vocal which frightens some children/parents.	CB to ask parents to be considerate when bringing dogs to the school gate.
Date of next meeting	TBC	