

Parent/Carer Forum Minutes

Date 24 th January 2020	Time 9am
Chair Rebecca Crist	
Apologies: Kate Evans, Amanda Lee, Kathy Lapsley and Susan McCrave	

<u>Items discussed</u>
<p>1. Welcome – Apologies noted. We welcomed our Ethos and Worship Team with Mrs Burrows</p>
<p>2. SIAMS (RE) Inspection – We are due to have a SIAMs inspection, we are unsure of the exact date and are looking forward to sharing with the inspectors all that we do in school. We discussed how best to communicate our school ethos and the Religious Education that the children are learning in school. It was suggested if SMA could put a grid on the website showing the topics covered for the term/year. In that way it would be there for parents/carers to see what their child is learning for RE.</p> <p>The Ethos and Worship team told us about their visit to St Hilda’s C of E High School and some of the ideas they have brought back to school. They showed us the large shield which the pupils of St Hilda’s made for our school and the Bible which was given to them. They talked about the chapel at St Hilda’s which has a large stained-glass window and a beautiful cross. They discussed the ideas they have implemented to make our Prayer Cabin a peaceful contemplative space for everyone.</p> <p>They told us of the ideas they have brought back to school and discussed with Father Peter. This will lead to a school Eucharist in the near future and to Confirmation classes for staff. The Team told us of the link with SMA church and that the prayers which are said in Church on Sunday, are the ones used in our school Celebration, such as prayers for our community.</p> <p>Our school vision and values – the Ethos and Worship team took us to visit our Prayer Cabin. On our walk over, we noted the various Prayer spaces and the displays showing the different year groups’ work. The Team were able to share their display around the theme Agape. The children were able to discuss our school vision and values and shared these with us.</p>
<p>3. Workshops for Parents/Carers- We are holding an EAL information course beginning after half term. The course was successfully held last year and we are responding to the needs and requests from parents and carers. Letters and flyers will be sent shortly.</p>
<p>4. SMA Nursery- Our school Nursery based in Tuebrook Children’s Centre, is currently a morning only Nursery class and we discussed that there will be an afternoon session as in previous years. If anyone is looking for a Nursery place for their three/ four year old, please contact the School Office.</p>
<p>5. Year 6 SATs Boosters- These will begin after Easter on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings for an hour. We are aware of how many of our Year 6 pupils are worried about the SATs tests which are held in May. We trialled these support booster sessions last year and found that the children really gained so much confidence from working with the same teacher in pairs, or threes. We worked through past papers and discussed their anxieties and any worries they may have had about the test papers. The children really enjoyed the time to work with a different teacher.</p> <p>We thank the teachers for their support and time to make these sessions so successful and supportive for our Y6 pupils.</p>
<p>6. Additional teachers- Since September we have had an additional teacher in Year 2 to support the needs of the children. As a response to the needs in the Reception classes, a</p>

third teacher has been working with the Reception pupils and will be in place till July. It was noted how having a smaller class size in Year 2, has benefitted the confidence of one member's child.

7. Report to Governors- Each year a Report to Governors is sent to inform the Governors of our meetings. The Report was written and sent in November. The Report was shared with the Forum.

Any other business:

Website and Twitter- Feedback on some of the problems were discussed, so Mr Tedford popped in to clear up some issues around accessing the Parent App and website updates.

It was suggested that a message could be put on the website to remind parent/carers to contact the School Office for an invitation to access the app.

The dates for the year were discussed and a request for dates to be published on the website for the whole academic year were requested. It was understood that the Governors must pass dates etc before they can be published.

Continuing Daily Mile and Litter Pick Ups were discussed as a good idea for parental involvement after the Easter holiday.

Problems with the connecting gate by the Sports Hall were discussed as the gate had been faulty. Subsequent to the meeting, it has been necessary to leave the gate closed permanently as it has been damaged by being forced.

Parents' Evening this term is Wednesday 12th February. Letters have gone out with times for parents/carers to request.

Family Fun Day was discussed and different stalls were discussed for independent traders. Should a seller want to have a stall. please contact the School Office. Also was mentioned how the system for lunches was much better last year, as was the possibility to buy pizzas. Other discussions about the day will be discussed with the organising team.

Dates for diaries-

Drop in – next session will be 7th February at 9am. Coffee/tea and something to eat will be offered. Further dates will be 6th March and 27th March.

Suggestions for the Drop Ins were discussed, including First Aid for parents/carers, Mental health awareness session and Citizens Advice sessions.

Next **Forum** meeting will be Friday 20th March