

Parent/Carer Forum Minutes

Date 9 th November 2018	Time 9am
Chair Rebecca Crist	
Apologies: None received	

<u>Items discussed</u>
1. Welcome – Venue change for the meeting, KS2 Hall.
2. STAR Sessions – The STAR (Stay and Read) sessions have raised awareness of the focus of reading and enabled parents/carers to spend some quality time with their child reading together in school. The sessions have been enjoyable and very positive and will continue next term. It was requested that dates be sent out in good time, so as to allow parents/carers sufficient time to organise time off etc.
3. Macmillan Coffee Morning – This annual fundraiser for the charity took place on Friday 28 th September. We offered support for parents/carers on the process for online application to primary and secondary schools, as well as a cup of coffee/tea and a slice of cake! Grateful thanks to those Forum members who kindly offered to help out and supported this worthy charity. We raised a fantastic £108!
4. PSHE Scheme of Work - We looked at the new scheme which has been introduced in school called Jigsaw. The whole school uses the Friday afternoon sessions on Jigsaw and we end the week in a calm and reflective way, celebrating our weekly successes and promoting feelings of well being for the weekend ahead. We discussed the importance of expressing emotional and mental wellbeing and expressing feelings and discussed how as a school we feel these issues of great importance. One of our members discussed how their daughter (Y6) and her friends had been discussing body image and how it raised self/ image esteem issues. It was agreed that these issues would be passed onto Y6 staff, so that they may be able to generate discussion and foster positive image discussions.
5. Well-Being for Schools Award – Mr Bishop, our Learning Mentor, was with us to discuss this award and what it means for our school. We have a Well Being team in school and this award will be important for all of us, pupils, parents/carers, staff and governors. As the team work through the award criteria, we, the Forum, will be a source of help and information for them. Healthy Schools Award , is an award which we have held for some considerable time, over 10 years. We are due to reapply for the award in the Spring term and it will cover all aspects of the curriculum, from healthy lifestyle to drugs awareness and healthy lunchboxes.
6. E-Bug – We discussed this scheme which pupils will be working on in the next few weeks. It highlights the huge problem of antibiotic resistance which in 20 years time will be a massive problem for us all. We discussed some of the experiments Year 3 will be undertaking, for example how far does a sneeze travel?
7. Behaviour Learning Walk – We walked from the KS2 Hall and observed how the children exited the School Celebration in a calm, quiet and orderly manner. The pupils' behaviour was exemplary and we could see the pride in Year 6 door monitors' faces as they were complimented. Well done pupils of SMA, you are wonderful!
Any Other Business – Christmas Fair on Tuesday 11 th December will be our pupil craft fair starting at 2pm. Last year Forum members kindly volunteered to wrap the hamper and sell raffle tickets. We have been asked to do the same this year. If you are able to pop into school to sort out the hamper, please see R Crist, or the Office staff. Litter Pick Up date - will be Friday 16 th November from 9am, with refreshments available afterwards. It was discussed if a text message could be sent as a reminder to parents/carers. Tours for Prospective Parents/Carers - will be in the week of 26 th November, for any Nursery parents/ carers who wish to discuss the online application process and have a tour of SMA. Letters will be sent out soon. SMA Home-School Agreement – It was asked what the status of the Agreement is, as it went to Governors and it was queried when would it go out to the school community? Clothes for Asylum Seekers – One of the Forum who works for a charity who work with asylum seekers, asked for donations of clothing, toys etc which she has agreed to collect. If anyone has any items please see R Crist who will liaise. Mailing out of Agendas and Minutes – It was discussed if we could use email to send out information as members said that the paper copies had not always been arriving home. R Crist agreed to discover if there would be any issues and if not, would begin using email addresses given. If members have changed email addresses, not given addresses, or would rather continue receiving paper copies, please see R Crist.
Date for diaries: Next meeting will be Friday 18 th January 2019.