

ST PAULINUS CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

As children of God at St Paulinus, we strive to **nurture** the gifts given to us by God so that our school is a happy, caring place where everyone is valued, safe and able to learn and grow.

“Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them” (Romans 12,6)

NURTURE: Knowledge, Curiosity, Resilience, Respect, Spirituality, Creativity & Love

PARENT FORUM MEETING

Wednesday 11th October 2023 2pm

- Present:**
 - Y1 – Mrs Kerri-Anne Rollo
 - Y2 – Mrs Buki Ishola
 - Y3 – Miss Gemma Daniels
 - Mrs J Joynes (Chair of Governors)
 - Mr D Crook (Governor)
 - Mrs Sukonik – Assistant Principal
 - Mrs Rhodes – Principal
- Apologises:**
 - Y6 – Mrs Claire Rees
 - Y4 – Mrs Lynsey Seal
- Mrs Rhodes welcomed parents to the meeting and explained that agenda items had only been received in advance from one year group (Y3). Mrs Rhodes explained that agenda items needed to be sent in by the deadline so that the items could be discussed by SLT before the meeting to be able to respond to queries in the best way possible.

4. Parent Items:

Year 1: no agenda items received

Year 2: no agenda items received

Year 3:

School dinners.

Positive feedback from parents regarding children being able to choose lunch with their eyes and not first thing in the morning. Parents feel that dietary needs are not being met and are not signposted on the website / menu as to the different options for allergies and that the catering company are not easy to get hold of as they only supply an email address. Parents are also concerned that food for children with dietary needs is running out as it is chosen by other children. There is an ongoing concern that the portion sizes are the same for both KS1 and KS2. Acknowledgement that there are constraints on the catering staff in school and that parents appreciate their hardwork. It was queried whether the cost of living had had an impact. Mrs Rhodes

acknowledged that free school meals and children being able to choose daily if they were a school dinner was also having an impact on numbers.

ACTION:

Mrs Rhodes informed the Trust and they were looking into the catering company, with the person with responsibility for this coming to see the school during lunchtime in Autumn 2. All were advised that the menus are on the school website and that they are not changed every half term but seasonal. The school were considering whether children were to be a school dinner or a packed lunch for a half term (or some period of time) and not daily, to ensure there was a right number of dinners provided for those who want them.

Update on Times table Rockstar maths provision.

ACTION: Confirmed that this had been mentioned on the last newsletter and there was a further letter for parents to go out before half term with a dress up launch day of 31st October in school.

Staff working patterns.

Parents were asking for clarity as their children were coming home saying that a TA had taught them or a substitute. Parents would like a timetable to show who was teaching in each class.

ACTION: Mrs Rhodes explained that all teaching staff have one morning or afternoon as Planning, Preparation & Assessment time and this is covered by our HLTA (who is qualified to undertake PPA cover) and she delivers work planned by the class teacher. We also have two Early Career Teachers who are entitled to up to 1 day out of class. There had been one substitute this term for a day as the teacher had been physically sick and unable to carry on at work. It was explained that PPA is moveable due to staffing requirements so we would be unable to provide a definitive timetable.

Year 4: agenda items not received within the given timeframe

Year 5: no agenda items received

Year 6: agenda items not received within the given timeframe

5. AOB

New parent representatives are needed for Y6 and YR.

ACTION: to be advertised.

Afterschool clubs.

Parent queried how afterschool clubs are allocated and promoted. Explained that these are run by outside companies and we only lease the hall to them. Agreed that we would put their contact details onto the school website for parents to contact directly. Afterschool sports events /training are overseen by the PE leads and football particularly is run by two parent volunteers from Y6. There had been two children who wanted to join the football team try-outs after the Summer deadline had passed, these had now been given letters to take home but not all children could play at once as the matches were only 7 a side.

School trips

Queried how many classes have planned trips.

ACTION: Mrs Rhodes reminded of her google form asking for volunteers as this was historically an issue and that at the time of meeting, only one parent had responded. Panel asked that parents given enough notice so that time off can be arranged as this had been last minute previously. Parent queried if knowledge of local trips and ideas could be shared across the Trust and it was agreed other schools would be approached.

Playground equipment status

Confirmed that there was still a lack of equipment despite more being bought and put out at the beginning of term.

ACTION: School are looking into some larger, sturdier items to put out. Mrs Rollo advised of a grant which had been available last year which had not been taken up and she would kindly look into this again for this year. Mrs Rhodes advised about the new decking area which was currently being built in the playground so that the area disrupted by neighbouring tree roots could be used by the children. Mr Doyle (site manager) and two parent helpers were working on it over the weekends in their own time.

Cabin update:

Mrs Rhodes advised that the cabin has been assessed by Mr Doyle, the site manager alongside a parent and he was preparing an update as to the work needed.

ACTION: Plea for donations and time to go out onto the newsletter again once we have all the information needed.

Future Meeting dates:

ACTION: SLT would prepare a list of dates for upcoming meetings for the next academic year so that all members of the forum were aware of dates and times, with a preference for Wednesdays at 2pm. This would also include deadlines for agendas to be submitted.

Meeting closed at 3:10pm.