

Present:

Conal Holmes (Headteacher); Julie Roberts (Samuel Y4); Mel Hinchey (Lana Y5); Lesley Dewsbury (Grace Y4); Julie Littler (Jake Y3, Yasmin Y4); Rachel Williams (James Y3)

1. Progress on Issues Discussed at the Previous Meeting:

Homework Issues: All children now have log-ins and passwords for Athletics and a Athletics club is being set up in school. There is not yet a reward scheme in place. A Athletics workshop for parents will be organised soon. There was a discussion relating to the use of homework diaries and small inconsistencies across year groups. CH to raise with staff. Parents understood the logistical difficulties that teachers would have reading all homework diaries.

Letters: The Oldest Child Policy is now in place. CH to check that this is running smoothly. CH to monitor numbers of letters being sent home during the Summer Term and limit this where possible.

E-Safety: A workshop has now taken place for parents. Year 5 will be having E-Safety workshops this week.

Performance League Tables: CH elaborated on this issue from the previous meeting. He emphasised once again that the school does not use performance league tables as a reliable measure of our school's success. Instead, the school present their own progress data over the last four years, based upon levels that children were benchmarked at when arriving at the school in Year 3. This is a similar practice to other Junior schools and all benchmarked data is thoroughly moderated by external moderators. CH intends to share benchmarked data with Y3 parents from Autumn 2015, and to write to all parents about the school's own performance data in the near future.

School Meals: CH had a meeting with Sue Merrick from the canteen to discuss the issues raised at the previous meeting. Assurances have been received regarding the healthiness of meals and Mrs Merrick has been instructed to ensure all children receive a balanced diet, regardless of what they request. Written assurances have been received in regards to food suppliers and conformance of plastic trays. Minimal processed food is used. Mrs Merrick now orders fresh vegetables instead of frozen and serves bagels without cheese. In terms of the variety, there is a three week menu which is on the school website. Opinions are still to be sought from parents and children regarding this issue.

Counter Bullying Strategies: As agreed, CH wrote to all parents with details of our Whole School Behaviour Policy and Counter Bullying Guidelines.

2. Issues raised for Discussion by Parents

School Closure: The school needed to close unexpectedly for one day at the start of the half term, due to a boiler room flood. One parent rightfully requested that the school give consideration to reassuring parents about the safety of the children who were already in school that morning, when sending out messages via social networking. CH agreed that this was a reasonable request and would ensure that this happened next time.

Pupil Forum: One parent suggested that the school develops a Pupil Forum which would give pupils an opportunity to express their views. The school currently has a school council and a children's learning team, but CH would give some thought to this.

Attendance Certificate: 100% attendance certificates to be re-introduced. Parents suggested that CH write to parents emphasising the importance of high attendance levels and the impact of having time of school. Parents did not like the idea of attendance raffles it is not always the child's fault if they are off school.

The 11+ Process: A lengthy discussion took place which explored many issues relating to the 11+. CH indicated that the school already does all that it reasonably could to help parents and children with this process. A meeting is held for Y4 parents during the Summer term and familiarisation lessons are provided to children towards the end of Year 5. In addition, there is a lunchtime club which broadly explores 11+ style strategies.

Cross Country and Young Voices: Parents would like to see the school take part in Cross Country competitions and the Young Voices Music event in Manchester.

Music Teachers: Parents wondered whether it would be possible for them to meet their children's music teachers.

Gymnastics: This popular club was organised through Bebington High Sports College but lasted only for 6 weeks. Parents thought it was a pity that this had ended.

Safety Concern: Some children are walking back out of the inside playground gate after being dropped off at 8.45. CH to ensure this gate is manned by duty staff at this time.

END