

Parent Forum Minutes - 8.11.16

Present

Pat Speed, Carolyn Solkin, Heidi Smith, Lesley Kemp, Sally Gillbanks, Michelle Mageer, Maureen Smith, Kari Kvamme, Lucia Thacker.

Apologies

Michelle Wilson, Phillipa Lewis, Mrs Boland, Mrs Brophy, Fioana Keeffe, Samantha Currie.

- Reviewed minutes from 23.5.16
- Jungle gym/story teller's garden - The coloured metal jungle gym is going to be removed due to health and safety reasons and the Story Teller's Chair will be reinstated. Sadly the new climbing wall/slide equipment that was donated by a charity has had to be returned to be used elsewhere. We had complaints from houses near the school fence that the apparatus was too high allowing children to see into their gardens.
- Lost Property - It has become a mountain again. The office staff have kindly gone through the pile to find names but this is still a huge issue in school. It is now located in the entrance area to enable parents to view it at anytime.
- Tea and Toast on Friday mornings - I have contacted Mary Rimmer to inform her that the studio hall is available to facilitate this again. Storage will need to be looked into and a visit to the outside container to see what equipment has been stored. It was discussed what a valuable network/service this provides for our families. PTA maybe to get involved?
- Languages - Pat has received an email about running a lunchtime club in Spanish for EYFS. It was felt that at the moment Reception would struggle to fit it into lunchtime. The children are still taking a long time to eat their meal and finding their feet on school routines. We will look at costing and logistics after Christmas. Children from Year 3 - Year 6 receive the statutory modern language lessons from Madam Edward. She also runs fee paying additional classes for children wishing to have a deeper knowledge of the language and the culture of the country.
- School Sports Policy - This was given to Forum members and is available on the school website. Mr Quigley is the School's Sports coordinator who has produced this document that has been ratified by Governors. It includes how teams are chosen and how an inclusive, fair approach is adhered to in the many individual and team games we

participate in at Great Crosby. These can be on a competitive level or for development, fitness and of course fun!

- Lollipop person on Brownmoor Lane - it is an extremely dangerous junction. The contact details at Sefton Council is Marie Gosling 015102886152. It was discussed that local councillor power would probably be the best course of action. Parents who wish to get involved can contact Sefton or their local councillor.
- Year 1 - There are currently 4 year 1 classes that will probably go into 3 year 2 classes at the end of this academic year. SLT and Governors are still taking advice and researching the best possible plans for our children. The many permutations include; 7 split 1/2 classes or 1 mixed year 1/2 class. Factors to be taken into account could be: - mixed ability, age, gender, social groups, high/low achievers, parental requests to be/not to be with certain peers. Staff will be deployed that have the expertise of year 1 and year 2 expectations. Curriculum topics and content run on a 2 year cycle so this will not be a problem. As soon as the plan has been agreed, Mrs Speed will call a meeting to advise parents/carers in the spring term.
- Year 6 SATS - Week commencing 8th May 17. A whole raft of booster sessions will be available for targeted children across all subject areas. Again a meeting for parents/carers will outline all the information around SATS and what to expect.
- School Gates - apologies for the late opening of gates on 2 occasions recently. (One gate malfunction and a staffing issue). Both gates will be opened promptly at 8:40am. The precincts entrance closes first at 8:50 and The Northern Road at 8:55. All pupils must then report through the main office. SLT will look at the whole system to see if there is a better solution to the bottle neck that occurs on our main entrance.
- PTA - We have a brand new committee on our PTA. Volunteers will be imperative for the smooth running of events, including the biggest money maker, the Christmas Fair on 4th December. Breakfast with Santa is under discussion once the fair has been sorted.
- Pat Speed gave a tour of the impressive new building works in our school.
- Next meeting - will be after Christmas. Date to be announced.