

TWO WATERS PRIMARY SCHOOL



PARENT FORUM MINUTES – 13TH NOVEMBER 2018

	<p>Present Mr T Gately & Miss H Shay Reception Year 1 Mrs Kelly Year 2 Mrs Bratt & Mrs Stormont - apologies Year 3 Mrs Woodgate / Mrs Ruocco - apologies Year 4 Mrs Rezvani - apologies Year 5 Mrs Bassett / Mrs Morris - apologies Year 6 Mrs Dalton</p>	Action
Feedback from previous meeting	<p>Parking Mr Gately is speaking with a member of the Governing Body who is associated with Herts County Council regarding the recently installed pathway from the new houses. The pathway is now in use but leads directly onto the road rather than a pavement. This is causing issues with children crossing over in front of the main road entrance to the school. Parents have been asked not to park in High Ridge Close at any time of the day, which is helping with congestion of the area. A reminder will be sent to Nursery parents.</p>	TG
<p>Role of the Forum</p> <p>Parent Feedback Questionnaires</p> <p>School Performances</p>	<p>Mr Gately requested that any points requiring discussion at the forum meeting be submitted prior to the meeting. This includes comments from other parents on Agenda items or suggestions/comments to be raised under 'Any Other Business'. The role of the Parent Rep is to deliver feedback and is not a forum to discuss issues regarding individual children or problems. These should be directed to the class teacher in the first instance.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">oOo</p> <p>Mr Gately informed the meeting that Feedback Questionnaires are sent out termly, to either pupils, staff or parents asking for their comments/feedback on various aspects of school life. To date the response from parents tends to be low. Members of the forum were asked for ideas of an easier way for parents to access and respond in the future. It was suggested that a simple ParentMail form, sent directly via email to each parent be designed with tick/comments boxes to enable an easy fast response. TG will trial this method to see if a higher volume of responses can be generated and asked class reps to encourage parents to respond.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">oOo</p> <p>Due to the high volume of parents attending performances held at school, Mr Gately felt it had become a health and safety concern. Mr Gately asked members of the forum for their views on how best to accommodate parents to such events. It was suggested that celebrations such as Harvest Festival and the Christmas Carol Concert be split over two performances and be 'ticketed' in future, with two tickets per family being issued, one for each performance. This will be trialled at the Carol Concert at the end of this term. Forum members suggested that both performances be scheduled for first thing in the morning rather than one performance taking place at 1.30 p.m. in the afternoon, mainly due to work commitments. Mr Gately agreed.</p>	TG

e-Safety in the home

As a school, children are regularly reminded about the importance of keeping themselves safe on-line. This message is also addressed during the annual Safer Internet Day held in February. This day in the past has been poorly attended by parents. As social media sites are becoming part of a child's everyday life, the school is keen for parents to be more involved and be aware of what their children are accessing whilst at home. Mr Gately reported that there had previously been incidences of bullying on-line in upper KS2, with children making unkind comments and uploading photos of class mates. This is then carried over into school and causes issues within friendship groups.

A member of the forum suggested that parents are notified via ParentMail if an issue arises within a particular class setting so that they can talk to their children at home. Mr Gately reported to the meeting that it has also become apparent that children are using social media sites that are not age appropriate, as well as playing online games such as Fortnite (aged 12 and above) and Call of Duty (aged 18 and above) whilst at home. Mr Gately advised that at a recent Safeguarding session it had been reported that 'sexting' was beginning to creep into the younger years at schools, with inappropriate pictures and language being shared on phones or social media sites. Parents will be encouraged to attend the next Safer Internet Day scheduled in February.

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Any Other Business

A member of the Forum asked if 1:1 and group reading with children was continuing in KS1. Mr Gately notified the meeting that the class teacher is the first port of call if there are any issues, questions or concerns regarding the day to day running of the class.

It was asked if the allocated Teaching Assistants for each class will remain with no further changes. Mr Gately advised the meeting that on some occasions there is a need to swap Teaching Assistants when children have specific needs that are better matched to certain members of staff, hopefully no further changes will be made this year. Mr Gately further informed the meeting that there are student teachers in most classes this year so having an extra adult in class will benefit the children greatly.

The next Curriculum Workshop for parents will focus on Reading. This will help parents support their child by explaining how to question the comprehension of a text and inform them of the vocabulary used in school. It was suggested that a 'key' sheet is sent to parents with an explanation of the different phrases and clauses being used in school.

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The next meeting is scheduled for 1st March 2019 at 9.00 a.m.

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