

Parents' Forum meetings - minutes

Date of meeting	7 th March 2016
Time and location of meeting	2.30pm in staffroom
Person taking the minutes	Frances Davis
People present	Mrs Powell (HB) Mrs Arnell (HB) Mrs Gerrish (DF) Mrs Baldock(GH) Mrs Shaw (BF) apologies from CP

Homework Policy -

When will the homework policy be ready?

Parents commented on the need for direction with appropriate home learning activities (beyond the information provided from school – assessment booklet, medium half term planning on the website and half termly parents' curriculum sheet) and that parents liked the range of activities (ICT, worksheets, open ended tasks).

Because Mrs Davis was ill at the beginning of the half term this has put back the completion date for the policy. She is working on completing the policy and getting it out to parents.

Teachers have talked extensively about how they can provide parents with information on the Read Write Inc Phonic learning their child will be doing. We will be giving your child during the first week of a new half term a list of the sounds they will be learning. The sounds will not be dated because the Read Write Inc Phonic style of teaching is responsive to the children's learning needs and also includes writing, reading and answering questions about what they have read.

Gardening Areas -

Will there still be opportunities for children to garden?

Yes, school is committed to having a gardening club and has already been in conversation with parents about the available spaces in school to garden (in Reception, by the MUGA). Now that we are entering the planting season we can look to see if we can get the gardening club running again.

Play equipment -

What is the "colouring club"?

We have operated since November, when the work on the MUGA was started, an opportunity for children to come indoors, in one of the classrooms, to colour. Pictures are selected by a member of staff and appeal to boys and girls. It is not a club but an opportunity. Some children go every day, some go occasionally. The club did run every day, but now it is on Monday and Tuesday lunchtimes.

We continue to look at what is offered to children to play with outside and inside whilst the building work has been and will be happening. We would consider offering an indoor "free" activities session but we have to make sure the classroom is ready for the afternoon's learning and that any resources for the afternoon are not unintentionally used. The colouring club is easy to organise, set up, tidy away and more importantly enjoyed by around 30 children.

Yes, the MUGA will be played on every day.

Parents Evening -

Could there be more later slots at parents' evenings?

We do now offer slots up to 8pm on our later evening (before, the latest slot was 7pm). We will look to see if we can offer any more late slots.

Bike It -

Why is "bike it" just for bikes?

Data from Sustrans, the charity who runs bike it, shows that children who cycle from an early age then keep the habit of cycling into teenage and adulthood. There is not the same correspondence with scooting. We do have events for bicycles, but we say children can come on their scooter. Children can come on their bike, or scooter, on Sport Relief day.

This year we decided not to hold a "bling your bike" (where you are invited to decorate your bike to a

particular theme) but a “bring your bike” to school so there was less demand on parents. Parents have to decide, with where they live and their morning routines, if they want their child to come to school on their bike.

Plans available

Although the plans for the expansion are the website, school will put together copies of these plans on display in school. We have not been provided with any big copies of the plans.