



Parent Forum

Wednesday 6th November 2019

Present:

This meeting was attended by four parents/grandparents, Ms Riddleston (Head of School) and Mrs Jaques (Executive Headteacher)

Minutes:

- Ms Riddleston thanked parents (and grandparent) for attending today.
- There were discussions about the following:
 - The day chosen for this first meeting does not suit all parents. It was also suggested that an e-mail reminder about the meeting might have meant that more parents attended. It was agreed to try a different day next time and to send out a reminder via e-mail;
 - Ms Riddleston asked for ideas for future meetings. It was agreed that a focus on SEND would be positive for a future meeting;
 - Parents commented that they are used to the same things happening at Richard de Clare each academic year and that they have therefore been surprised when things have changed. Mrs Jaques and Ms Riddleston commented that it has been difficult for them to communicate changes with parents when they were not aware that parents were expecting certain events to take place. It was agreed that dates for the rest of the academic year will be published as soon as possible;
 - Parent said that they would like more communication, such as information about why fencing has appeared around part of the KS2 building. Parents said that there are a lot of rumours on the playground about this. Ms Riddleston explained that this is to do with some issues with the roof being investigated and that she only hadn't sent a message to parents about this because she has been waiting for information about when this will be addressed in order to give parents all of the information at the same time. Mrs Jaques commented that no parents had been into the school office to ask about this and both Ms Riddleston and Mrs Jaques said that parents are welcome to call into the office at any time to ask about anything that is bothering them;
 - There was a question about the removal of the afternoon playtime in Key Stage One. Ms Riddleston explained that timetables have been introduced in Key Stage One classes to ensure curriculum coverage and that children's time in school to learn has been maximised;
 - There was a discussion about the increased security around the school site and Ms Riddleston gave examples about how vulnerable the school site had been before the increased security was in place;

- 'Meet the teacher' was discussed because parents felt that they would have liked an opportunity to meet their child's teacher before this point. Parent's evenings are coming up soon and parents were very positive that the school had listened to their feedback and had changed the format and times of these opportunities for parents to meet their child's teacher;
- Parents gave positive feedback about the toys that have been bought for the children to use at lunchtimes. Ms Riddleston explained that the children had helped to choose the toys, that play leaders have been introduced and that training has taken place for midday assistants. As a result of all of this, children's behaviour at lunchtime has improved hugely;
- Parents were asked for their views on the school carrying out a parent survey at this point and it was agreed that a short online survey would be a positive step;

The meeting finished at 3.15 p.m. Ms Riddleston thanked parents for attending and for sharing their ideas.

- Date of next meeting – Tuesday 3rd December at 2.30 p.m.