

# Parent Forum Minutes – 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2024

Thank you to all who attended the Parent Forum and thank you for sharing your thoughts and ideas. All of the points raised will be taken forward to Mrs Blanden and passed to the relevant people.

## **Communication**

Emails aren't always helpful There are too many sent in error and then corrections that follow. There seem to be messages that come from many people and not all of them are streamlined to be sent at the same time. This can lead to confusion. Reminders are sent for some events but not for others. The fortnightly Mission Tie newsletter and Wednesday Word emails are better because they're regular and having dates for the diary is useful. Could the mailing lists be changed so that emails are more tailored to their intended audience?

### **Our response:**

*It's very difficult to meet all parents expectations and some parents have said that the school does not communicate enough. We try to get the balance right by ensuring parents are informed of everything that's going on. We will look at ways to better tailor emails to relevant parents, however we are aware that some parents want to know what's going on in other year groups simply because they are interested in what's happening in the rest of the school.*

## **Marvellous Me**

Works well although parents would like to hear more of what the children are doing. Nursery settings sent photos daily, is there a possibility that we could send more photos to show how the children are spending their days?

### **Our response:**

*We work to the demands of the curriculum. Staff will be working with children, helping them with their learning. There is lots of information on the website which informs parents of what the children will be learning during the year. Each year group has at least opportunities to share pictures and information about what the children have been learning through the fortnightly newsletter. We will remind teachers to add additional information to Marvellous Me.*

## **Trips and Clubs**

The lunchtime clubs are well received although there could be more after school clubs. Some of the younger children haven't been on a school trip. Events like Sports Day could be made more of an event.

### **Our response:**

*Lunch time clubs are run by staff at no cost to parents. Staff cannot run after school clubs because they are busy assessing the day's learning, planning, having staff meetings, meeting parents and preparing for the following day. Any additional after school clubs would have to be run by external providers and this comes at a significant cost. Also some of the after school clubs we have had have not had a very high take up such as Rugby Tots and Fencing. Our sports day is one of our biggest events which takes place over a full day. Parents are invited to watch their KS1 children in the morning and then spend lunch time with them enjoying a family picnic. KS2 children then take part in a variety of sporting activities with their parents present. Hopefully the new PTA will be more involved in this year's event and will be able to add to the excitement of the occasion. We aim to take classes on educational visits at least once a year. We also invite outside providers into school - Roman Day, Stone Age Day, author visits, artist visits, Creepy Crawlies, Farmers with their equipment, the fire brigade are just some in school events which have taken place.*

## **Lunches**

There was concern that some children who ordered a specific lunch were not getting what they had ordered. **Our response:** Mrs Buckley will raise parent concerns with the catering company.

## **What are we doing well?**

- Children feel safe and they enjoy coming to school.
- Peripatetic music is very enthusiastically met.
- Children are enjoying the swimming and parents feel happy they are learning to swim.
- The 'Bring Your Parents to...' curriculum afternoons are very useful for seeing the school and the children's learning in practice.

The next Parent Forum will be on Thursday 28th March at 2.30pm. Please email Miss Page on [pec@stfranciscatholicprimary.com](mailto:pec@stfranciscatholicprimary.com) should you need to raise any queries.