

Parent Forum
19.5.17 Minutes



Attendees Yr Gp PFrep	Bessa Cador (Headteacher), Jenny Parry (YR), Rachel Walker(YR), Sally White (Y1), Tracey Inniss(Y2), Rachel Howell(3), Lydia Jones (Y4), Lorraine Cooke (Y4)	
Apologies	Carol Rogerson(Y3), Jo Heath(5), Debbie Rowlands	
Agenda Points	Commentary	Actions
Minutes 31.3.17	Minutes agreed as accurate	None
Focus 1 Holiday activities	<p>BC shared survey outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24 responses equating to 32 children • Approximately 11 children would need essential childcare for summer • A lot of respondees would take up holiday care for enrichment activities <p>BC had met with Tracey Humphries to discuss Awards for All grant – written bid. Grant would support 8 full days or 16 half days of enrichment activities – some KS1 / some KS2 / some whole school. All free for Wrenbury pupils only</p> <p>Continued discussion around possibility of Pre-school offering wrap around care for holidays</p> <p>A number of positive references to the quality of enrichment activities and care at Out of school Club composed to those offered at alternative provision – children of different age groups in different rooms</p>	<p>Awaiting outcome of bid</p> <p>School to continue working on options and opportunities for future provision and closer liaison with pre-school</p>
Focus 2 Healthy snacks	<p><i>BC discussed The Obesity Strategy and the school's focus on wellbeing – emotional, physical and nutritional</i></p> <p>She reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical activity in school met the strategy standard <p><i>BC asked how the Obesity Strategy could be communicated to parents especially around healthy eating</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents agreed school should use umbrella term 'Wellbeing' - more positive and less judgemental/confrontational <p><i>BC shared Healthy snack survey outcomes (asked for by governors):</i> 71% eating a healthy snack, a further 11% no snack – 18% eating a snack that could be considered unhealthy – crisps, chocolate, biscuits</p> <p>Parents said:</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The survey outcomes were generally better than would be expected – 82% not eating unhealthy snack. <i>BC agreed but said school does not want to be complacent</i> • The survey allows school, if wanted, to identify year groups eating the snacks deemed unhealthy and to give more guidance / teaching. <i>BC said it was important that we educate about healthy eating, but need to be careful not to make the child take full responsibility as parents often make the decisions around what is given to the child.</i> Could stickers be awarded to children eating a healthy snack option to encourage those not having a healthy choice to be persuaded it was a good idea School messages around healthy eating were getting into the home – children talking about healthy choices and healthy eating. <i>BC said she was pleased and this level of talk around healthy eating would continue in school</i> • Balanced diet with treats isn't in itself bad. <i>BC said that this was the message being presented to the children eg having a McDonalds/Take-aways every day didn't give us the balanced diet we needed but if we had the balanced diet and an occasional takeaway that was a treat and ok.</i> • Eating is a social activity and something to be enjoyed – parties, family gatherings, day outs. We shouldn't be stigmatising the eating of ice-creams, chocolate etc as bad foods. Parents agreed. <i>BC said it was important that the right messages were delivered to children and banning certain foods wouldn't help children to make the right choices</i> • Does Mrs Warner sell fruit alongside the breakfast type snacks or could she? <i>BC said that she currently doesn't but it may be possible. KS1 do get free fruit and any left-over is given to KS2 children if they are hungry.</i> 	<p>BC to speak to SW about fruit as an option for purchase. School to buy stickers – trial for impact</p>
<p>Focus 3 Hot dinners</p>	<p>Discussion moved to hot dinners Questions raised in discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would it be possible for parents to experience having a hot dinner in school so that they fully understood the process and the way children choose their lunch options? <i>BC said it was planned to do so – the grandparents had really enjoyed the dining experience with their grandchildren and we would give parents the opportunity to do so. One parent commented that although parents had been invited to events like the Queen's birthday lunch, it wasn't the same lunch time experience as the pupils normally have.</i> • How does Mrs Warner ensure that a child who does not like the main course options doesn't have a jacket potato on a daily basis? Jacket potatoes are a healthy option 	

	<p>but not if that is all a child is eating. BC was not able to answer this question and said she would follow this up.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would it be possible for parents to meet with Mrs Warner to briefly talk through child's diet and parent expectations? eg at home expected and do eat everything, so Mrs Warner not to give child opportunity to opt out of eating an item of food. BC to consider with Mrs Warner • For new parents, could there be more information around the process, the menu etc to help understanding to support child in making a good choice? BC agreed. She said that at the reception evening (new to school) hot dinners were discussed but more could be done. Perhaps an information leaflet with photos etc. • Could the menu choice for the day be visible at classroom entrances so that parents could talk to pupils before they go into school? One parent said she had a daily discussion with her child around the two choices and which her child would like. BC said we have to be careful not to overload staff with these type of tasks – menus are sent home. <p>BC fed back that school had actively worked on the healthy eating agenda – school assemblies – eg it had been identified that children liked broccoli and Mrs Warner said it could be sourced as a fresh product and offered more often; BC had reiterated to children that they HAD to take the vegetable option or have salad. This was being enforced. Mrs Warner no longer gave children pure orange juice but a diluted drink following discussion with BC (dental health advice); Discussion between Mr Warner and Mrs Cadour about portion sizes – were we over-facing the very young children with portion size? Mrs W and BC had discussed jacket potatoes – currently primary schools have small JP, high schools provide large. Could we buy large JPs for upper KS2 and halve for the younger children (equivalent to what currently provided)? Mrs W discussing with Cheshire East Catering. BC reported that Mrs W provides children with a balanced healthy menu that meet government standards.</p>	<p>Consider ways to inform parents more about hot meals and the experience of the child from ordering through to eating.</p> <p>Consider how we put out 'today's menu' in an easy efficient way so as not to burden staff but inform parents</p> <p>Organise opportunities for parent lunches</p> <p>Discuss with Mrs Warner how parents could meet with her to discuss pupil's diet if necessary</p>
<p>Focus 4 Packed lunch</p>	<p>Discussion moved to packed lunches.</p> <p>BC said that encouraging children to eat a healthy packed lunch was more challenging.</p> <p>Short discussion on parent rights to decide what their child eats and also difficulties when children do not like a wide range of foods.</p> <p>BC said children are being encouraged in 1:1 informal discussions over lunch time to try and choose a fruit/vegetable or dairy choice instead of a chocolate bar / crisps especially if a child has both in their lunch box.</p> <p>BC asked how the 'official' packed lunch leaflet had been received by parents?</p> <p>Parents said:</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One parent found it a bit offensive – and felt majority of parents knew what a healthy packed lunch should consist of. Other parents agreed. <p><i>BC asked how could school promote healthy lunch boxes and educate parents at the same time?</i></p> <p>Parents said:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Could children plan a healthy lunch box? It would allow the children to see that there are lots of different healthy options: salads, wraps, couscous etc.. <p>It was agreed that this was a good idea. <i>BC said it could be a task set for Y6.</i></p> <p>One parent asked for clarification as to whether the school was a nut free school. Discussion that nuts are deemed a healthy choice but for children with nut allergies, they can cause a huge concern. Parents reported that they regularly and even recently get text reminders about not bring nut products into school. <i>BC said she would make sure that the message is clear to all in communication.</i></p>	School children to produce a healthy lunch box leaflet
Anything else raised	<p>One parent said it would be good to be able to come into school and see children learning in lessons. One parent responded by saying that school had offered this opportunity as she had been able to join both her children in their classes. It was asked whether parents could shadow their child for a day in school. Discussion around feasibility of this – parent numbers in school.</p> <p><i>BC said we could look at other opportunities</i></p>	Look at year ahead and opportunities for opening school for parents to learn alongside their child.
Next meeting	<p>23rd June</p> <p>Focus 1: Homework</p> <p>Focus 2: Attendance – message from school and how it is being interpreted by pupils and parents</p>	Parents to actively seek views of parents on homework – we already have feedback from some who responded to questions about homework at Spring term parents evening

