

Parent Forum

Tuesday 27th November 2018

Staff Present

Deborah Howard- Headteacher

Ellie Linton- Communications & Marketing Manager

Format

At the start of the forum we asked parents to write answers to the following questions on post-it notes and put them on big pieces of paper:

What do you want to share?

What do you want to ask/raise?

What's going well/highlights?

The answers that parents submitted were then used to structure the discussion at the forum. Some parents emailed their discussion points in advance as they were unable to attend the meeting. These were all raised and noted during the forum.

We also had a separate piece of paper called the 'carpark', which parents could add post-it notes to throughout the forum so that these items could be addressed at the end of the meeting.

What's going well/highlights

Book and shoe swap- brilliant, brilliant, brilliant!

Great improvements made to outdoor areas.

School involvement in different events; Manchester Day, Bee in the City, choir at Chorlton Good Neighbours and RNCM.

Owl Club being outstanding (well deserved)

Hard work from the PTA!

Good channels of communication.

Good vibes all around in the school :)

Rights Respecting work and the links to behaviour being done by Mrs Ben Halima.

Free school clubs- we have tried modelling club and science club after school. Last year, also tried arts and crafts club and breakfast club in the morning. The kids loved them and I think it's a good opportunity for families which are on a lower income and can't afford other paying clubs. It also shows the staff's commitment. Thank you.

You said

The Meet the Teacher event in September was a great opportunity to see our kids' teachers and classrooms. We were not well enough informed about the content of this event though. This meant that I missed a lot of important stuff at the Year 4 talk because I'd chosen to go to my daughter's class first, which was covering things I already knew about from my son being in Year 2.

My daughter says that the children are being rushed at lunchtime to eat their food and make their way out of the dinner hall.

My child says that the dinner hall is very dirty and often children are purposefully throwing food on the floor.

My child is vegetarian and she says that the kitchen often runs out of certain options for school dinners, particularly the veggie ones.

Is healthy eating at lunchtime promoted enough?

We did

On the letter for next year's event we will give much more detail about what will be covered in each class at the Meet the Teacher event so that parents are able to make a decision as to whether or not they feel they need to attend, or which to prioritise if they have more than one child in school.

Our Lunchtime Lead, Wendy Gibson, will now be working through lunch every Monday to observe lunchtimes to see where changes need to be made.

Our new Business Manager, Craig Taylor, is currently looking to see if it would be possible for us to get a floor cleaning machine for the hall, which means that the entire floor can be cleaned in under 10 minutes. Our Lunchtime Lead, Wendy Gibson, will be looking into the claim that children are purposefully throwing food on the floor and tackling this issue as necessary.

This issue was discussed at a recent governing body meeting and the Headteacher, Deborah Howard and the School Cook, Jacky Ball, will work together to ensure that menu options are never running out on a regular basis.

We are currently working on promoting healthy eating both at breaktime and at lunchtime and are looking to introduce a new policy to discourage children having unhealthy snacks in the new year. We'll also be sharing ideas for healthy snacks and photos of healthy lunchboxes that we spot- from both children and teachers!

You said

Could siblings' artworks be combined into one card for the PTA Christmas cards?

Parking around school (eg. on double yellow lines) is still a major issue, despite all of the work the school has done to discourage parents from doing so.

I want to register for EasyFundraising, but I don't know where to find the link for it.

We did

We have spoken to the Christmas card company and they have said this would be possible, however it would require a certain level of administrative work on the school's part. We are going to look into this further to see if it will be possible for next Christmas.

We have arranged for a team of local PSCOs to come in and deliver an assembly, linked to our Rights Respecting work (in particular to Article 19- 'We all have the right to a safe environment'). The aim is that the children will feel empowered to challenge their parents if they are parking or stopping in the wrong place.

Our Communications Manager, Ellie Linton, has added the link to EasyFundraising to the homepage of the school website and to the bottom of the Weekly Update, along with instructions on how parents can use it to donate money to the PTA for free, simply by shopping online at selected retailers.