

# Parent Forum Minutes

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2024 1.30pm in school

Apologies: Y1 rep (LT), Y3 (KJ), Y5 (MB), Y6 (CM)

Item		Action						
1. Behaviour Policy	Parents looked at the behaviour policy before coming to the meeting. HP (YR) commented that she liked the positivity of the policy and none of the parents in attendance had any suggestions or changes.							
2. HRE consultation	Miss Wetherick HRE lead spoke to reps about the change in the name from RSE (Relationships and Sex Education) to Healthy Relationships Education. She explained that this is because, in Primary, the main emphasis is on having healthy relationships with people and only age appropriate information regarding the sex element is delivered. Parents were shown our curriculum and asked to comment. As a result, Miss Wetherick is more widely consulting with parents through a questionnaire about our HRE curriculum.							
3. Writing across the school	Following the last parent forum where a question was raised about the school's writing results, the forum was invited to look at examples of children's writing from YR through to Y6. These pieces were at the age expected standards or greater depth within age related standards so that parents could see what is expected of children at the end of each year group. Mrs Parkin also shared the Teacher Assessment frameworks from Y6, Y2 and EYFS writing statements so that parents could understand the assessment process better. Parents said that this was a useful session and aided them to have a better understanding of what was expected of the children.							
AOB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Parents are questioning why we no longer have mother and Father's Day lunches at school, no Christmas and summer Fetes? Why are we no longer having big fundraising events? <b>See minutes of meeting dated: November 2023 as this question has been asked at this meeting several times:</b></li> </ul> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr> <td style="width: 15%; vertical-align: top;">6. AOB</td> <td style="width: 65%; vertical-align: top;"> <b>Y4 - Christmas Fayre - why are we not doing this anymore?</b>                      LP said that we are not able to run this event anymore due to changing times that we find ourselves in.                      -The Christmas fayre was always a huge undertaking run by our dedicated FONS team who were well supported by the parent community. LP outlined that pre-COVID the FONS AGM would attract 50 odd parents but these days, we're lucky if three people come on top of our dedicated FONS team, who all have full-time                 </td> <td style="width: 20%;"></td> </tr> </table> <hr style="border: 2px solid black; margin: 10px 0;"/> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr> <td style="width: 15%;"></td> <td style="width: 65%; vertical-align: top;">                     jobs. Unfortunately, to run this event it needs many hands on deck.                      -We are also conscious of asking people for money in these challenging times, when many of our parents have not got the finances to support such events.                      -In addition to this, school and lessons are affected by the Christmas fayre for two days and we cannot afford to take learning time away from the children for this.                      -Many people including some of the children found the Christmas fayre to be a very crowded and loud place to be.                 </td> <td style="width: 20%;"></td> </tr> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Why didn't we have dressing up for World Book Day, but we have to have a costume for Great fire of London.</li> </ul>	6. AOB	<b>Y4 - Christmas Fayre - why are we not doing this anymore?</b> LP said that we are not able to run this event anymore due to changing times that we find ourselves in. -The Christmas fayre was always a huge undertaking run by our dedicated FONS team who were well supported by the parent community. LP outlined that pre-COVID the FONS AGM would attract 50 odd parents but these days, we're lucky if three people come on top of our dedicated FONS team, who all have full-time			jobs. Unfortunately, to run this event it needs many hands on deck. -We are also conscious of asking people for money in these challenging times, when many of our parents have not got the finances to support such events. -In addition to this, school and lessons are affected by the Christmas fayre for two days and we cannot afford to take learning time away from the children for this. -Many people including some of the children found the Christmas fayre to be a very crowded and loud place to be.		
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- This is partly due to us being aware of parental finances: The GfofL day letter said 'do not go to any expense,' it was just a bit of fun to add to the workshop and make it come alive. Photos of outfits detailed boys in shirts and trousers/shorts and girls in a dress/skirt and shirt with accessories if wanted. World book day pressurises parents to make/buy costumes. We are mindful of parents' finances and so we already had our storytelling week only two weeks before and had Pyjamarama day where the children only needed a pair of PJs. We can't celebrate everything unfortunately as we need to fit the learning in!
- The clubs available to KS1 aren't great compared to normal and compared to those for children in KS2. There are more children in KS2 compared to KS1 and so there needs to be more clubs on offer to fit all of the children in. KS1 also has less staff and children in KS1/EYFS are tired and not as able to do some of the clubs – such as choir – this is hard with the younger children. We also need two members of staff to run KS1 clubs whereas KS2 clubs can often be run by one person. The clubs are in addition to a school day. We ask teachers to run one club per half term and TAs tend to do the same. TAs are paid overtime for this, teachers are not. We cannot ask more of our staff – they are tired after a long day – they work hard day in day out for the children in our care and have their own families to go home to. Teachers have staff meeting, marking, planning and preparation for the next day once the children have gone home at 3.10/4pm. Our after school club provision is extensive compared to other schools and in the near future, we will not be able to maintain this due to school budgets unfortunately. We are not aware that our KS1 offer is any different to the amount of clubs offered to KS1 last term or last year or the year before, with them hovering around 4-6 clubs per week. For further info where this has been discussed before, please see minutes of previous meetings:
- The holes in the roof of the school hall and general maintenance of school. We have an old Victorian building with various extensions completed many years ago. The Local authority maintain our building and with dwindling budgets to LA and schools, they are only in a position to patch and fix. We would love a renovation or new building but unfortunately, with the way things are money-wise and despite our best efforts to make a case for our old school building, nothing is in the pipeline for the school. We do the best we can with the budget we have and we think we make the most of the area that we have. The Southern Vectis bus going has left a bit of an eye sore in the playground and we are hoping to eventually create a new area there. When we are able to commit to this, we will be in contact with FONS and parents to look for support with

	<p>this – watch this space! There are some slipped tiles on the hall roof but there are no holes. Our site manager is unable to replace the tiles without a cherry picker to get up there and as there are no holes or leaks caused by these tiles, there is no need to rent one of these.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Parent felt under pressure for their poorly child to return to school before they were ready. Parent had left a message about their child being poorly but the office staff still called to speak to the parent about the absence – why is this? LP outlined our absence policy and said that for our safeguarding records, our policy stipulates that school must make contact and speak directly to the parent. This is not to try to make the parent bring the child into school rather it is simply a safeguarding measure to check that all is ok.</li></ul>	
	Next Meeting – 1.30pm Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> May.	