

Parent Voice
Monday 26th June 2017
The Barn

1. Welcome and introductions

2. Minutes of the last meeting and action points

The previous meeting was a nil attendance and so the minutes from the April meeting were reviewed instead.

- **Summer activity scheme**

This would not now be operational this summer because of a lack of capacity to organise such a venture as a result of the recent long-term absence of a key member of administrative staff who would have taken responsibility for organising the scheme. The school would look into the possibility of running the scheme next year.

- **Breakfast club**

It was noted that sending out the information about Breakfast club had not yet been actioned; Mr McIntosh would ask the office again to issue this.

3. Procedure for when clubs are cancelled

A parent had requested, via the Parent Voice email account, for this to be discussed and confirmed. Mr McIntosh outlined that in the rare circumstance that a club is cancelled, the school does everything it can to allow the children of that club to be accommodated at school, so as to avoid asking parents to pick them up earlier than usual. This would normally involve the club being led or supervised by another member of staff or being assigned to another club; the latter option would not always be a matter of pupil choice as it would be dependent upon numbers in other clubs.

4. Year Group Plans

A parent had requested, via the Parent Voice email account, for this to be discussed as it appeared on the website that plans were incorrect or out of date. Mr McIntosh had since gone onto the website to ensure incorrect or out of date plans were amended or removed; consequently, the information presented was now accurate.

5. Parent voice minutes

A parent had noted, via the Parent Voice email account, that the minutes of these meetings only appeared on the day of the next meeting and requested that they are made available earlier. Mr McIntosh agreed that the minutes should be presented in a timely fashion but was clear that they had never appeared on the day of the next meeting. There had been two occasions when minutes had only been uploaded to the website on the day before a meeting, but usually they are available to read at least a week beforehand. However, Mr McIntosh would endeavour to ensure the minutes were uploaded as soon as possible.

6. AOB

- **Representing the school in outside sporting activities**

A parent asked how children were selected to represent the school at sporting activities such as outside competitive events. The parent was aware that children belonging to a club were likely to be those chosen but noted that some pupils may attend a club outside of school in the same discipline and it may not be known to the school. Mr McIntosh explained that children who attend particular clubs do normally make up the teams, though representation at District Sports in the summer term was selected by competition within year groups. Mr McIntosh also explained that this year, Mrs Vickers (the school's PE subject leader) had managed to involve every Year 5 pupil (who wanted to be involved) in an outside competitive sporting event. Mr McIntosh would speak with Mrs Vickers about the possibility of creating a list next year of children's outside club membership/sporting participation so as to help inform the selection of pupils for outside events.

- **Academisation**

Parents were interested to know more about the process of exploring conversion to an academy as part of a multi-academy trust (MAT) that the school had recently notified parents about via a newsletter. Mr McIntosh explained that the present stage involved governors finding out more about the process, researching possible routes to MAT status, sharing information with the other schools involved and making initial decisions on behalf of the school. No binding decisions would be made without full consultation with staff and parents and this was unlikely to occur before October half term. Parents requested that as much information as possible should be shared as soon as possible in order to help make an informed response to any proposal. They also expressed that there was a general feeling of concern amongst parents at the present because of the high degree of change currently going on at the Infant School and this was unsettling. Mr McIntosh could not speak on behalf of the Infant School but reassured parents that the Junior School was currently in a position of stability and strength and he was confident that this would be borne out when Ofsted next inspect the school. Mr McIntosh was also able to confirm that there were no plans currently to explore MAT status outside of the local context and that one of our key goals was to retain as much individuality as a school as possible. He also answered that MAT funding, timelines and any changes to school governance/management would be outlined and explored as part of the consultation process.

- **Ofsted**

Parents asked about the current self-evaluation of the school and the likelihood of the Ofsted inspection happening now that the Summer term is drawing to a close. Mr McIntosh explained that the school evaluates itself as 'Good' in all areas, with several outstanding features. The leadership of the school were aware of any areas for development and were taking action to make those improvements. Some development areas would take more time to sufficiently embed and bear fruit but the goal was always to strive for the best provision of education possible for our pupils and we were confident that the next inspection report would align with our own views. Mr McIntosh confirmed that a visit by Ofsted was due this term, given

the two-year gap between the last inspection (April 2015) and that they could indeed visit the school right up to the last few days of term.

7. Date and time of next meeting

The next meeting of Parent Voice will take place in September 2017 with a date and time being communicated at the start of the new school year.