

## Parent Body meeting

12<sup>th</sup> February 2:00 pm, Small Hall

Attendees: Rachael Cant-Year 4, Tim Price-Allington, Leida Melo Lyons-Scotney, Ian Bagnall- Lullingstone, Justine Bruce – Year 3, Mrs Humphrey – Deal, Cheryl McDowall – Hever, Mrs Skinner – Headteacher, Miss Fullagar – Deputy, Mrs West – Bursar and Christina Whitehead - PA

Apologies: Wendy Rosewell-Upnor, Kara Acott-Arundel, Charlie Goosen-Year 6, Laura Dillon - Windsor

### Agenda Items

Agenda item	School Feedback
1	<p><b>Introductions</b></p> <p><b>Communication</b></p> <p>Mrs Skinner wanted to add an agenda item and ask the parent body reps for their assistance in gaining some feedback from their parents regarding communication. She felt concerned that communication appeared to be going awry and gave two examples of this:-</p> <p>Year 5's recent Greek immersion day was severely under represented with only 6 out of 60 children coming into school in Greek costume.</p> <p>Foundation Stage had forest school and invited parents to attend; only 3 out of 15 of the parents came, which again was most unusual for a usually very popular event.</p> <p>Mrs Cant highlighted that she had had problems recently with her parentmails going to junk which could account for why the school had had a poor response to the above events.</p> <p><b>Parentmail have asked us to inform parents that they need to add info@parentmail.co.uk to their safe senders and this will stop the emails from going to their junk box.</b></p> <p>Mrs Melo Lyons asked if it would be better to go back to paper copies for everyone. This was not considered to be a viable option as it would not be environmentally friendly.</p> <p>Action:</p> <p>Parent reps to contact their class's parents to gather views and responses on weekly newsletters and parentmail communications. To bring this information with them to the next parent body meeting in March.</p>
2	<p><b>Adventure Playground</b></p> <p>As previously discussed quotes for the replacing the adventure playground like for like is ranging between £35,000-£75,000. To replace the flooring alone with a safety surface would be £15,000. We have spoken to the children a little and will do more so after half term, about what they would like to see there. Suggestions so far have been:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A remembrance garden, with sensory plants and herbs/flowers</li> <li>• Sitting activities area – somewhere they could read, write and draw</li> <li>• Play equipment – the slide house is the only bit that is still safe to use and the children love it. This bit could be kept, fenced off and a class at a time allowed to play on it.</li> </ul> <p>The demolition of the adventure playground has been booked and they will be taking everything away, bar the slide house. They will be leaving some of the wood so that wildlife stacks can be created and the tyres will also be left, as the children love these as well.</p> <p>Mrs Humphrey raised Spare Parts a recycling project that KCC run. She will email over the details to Mrs Whitehead and Miss Fullagar. 3-4 staff members could be trained and there is a shed with seating in it that has storage space for all the recycling and safe things the children can play with. It is a way of recycling material within the school rather than throwing it away.</p> <p>The remembrance garden area would be a lovely idea and many children would benefit from</p>

		<p>this. There has been an amount of bereavement in this school. If we built a shelter this would need to be weather proofed for wet and sunny days to ensure proper protection.</p>
3	<b>Access to playground</b>	<p>As part of the adventure playground project, the path can be widened near Leeds class using devolve capital money (which is used specifically for projects) thereby alleviating the bottleneck around Leeds class.</p> <p>The school is aware of the issues surrounding access onto the site. Please see notes below.</p>
4	<b>Front Gate</b>	<p>The front gate is very heavy. This has been referred onto the site team who will liaise with the gate company with regard to the possibility of a hydraulic soft close mechanism.</p>
5	<b>Top Side Gate</b>	<p>The top side gate will remain closed due to safeguarding and health and safety. The access point to the church is a public right of way and if the gate were to be opened, the school would need to deploy a parking attendant and complete vehicle and pedestrian risk assessments.</p> <p>We need instead to educate our children and raise awareness of road safety and crossing safely. The school will be doing this in PHSE lessons after half term.</p> <p>It was asked whether the church could be approached to set up a bollard that could be raised and dropped in the ground as and when needed. The church now has been given a new lease from KCC when the gates were installed. This access point is the responsibility of the church. It was agreed that the Bursar could approach the church to ask the question.</p> <p>Chess club also need to be reminded to take the children via our field and gain access to the church for after school club using the top gate, which leads straight onto their grounds.</p>
6	<p><b>Leeds bottleneck</b></p> <p><b>Dropping children off at 8.40am</b></p>	<p>As part of the adventure playground project, the path can be widened near Leeds class using devolve capital money (which is used specifically for projects) thereby alleviating the bottleneck around Leeds class.</p> <p>The classroom doors shut at 8.45am and then children are expected to go into school via the red door. Parents need to be committed to bringing children in on time.</p> <p>There was a question about children being let in from 8.40am; however this has never been the case. There was one occasion with regard to the snow, until the school moved to front entrance access for all in severe snow conditions. This has raised a question with the senior leadership team about manning gates as there were concerns that some parents were leaving their children alone in the playground before the classroom doors were opened. This raised the question of age appropriateness; you would not leave a reception, year 1 or 2 child on their own in the playground.</p> <p>SLT trialled it this term and found it beneficial to be there and the parent body reps agreed that it was a good idea, in that it created calmness, could also assist with patrolling the area for mobile phone misuse and parking.</p> <p>To start in Term 4.</p>
7	<b>Parking around the school</b>	<p>Very frustrating issue, particularly as it took four years to get the zebra crossing. Various ideas were discussed:-</p> <p>Parents asked if parking attendants could be there every day.</p> <p>What about PCSCO's? They have to divide their time up between all the schools in their area, so again we would not have them every day and not always at the crucial pick up times. The school is not seen as a priority for them as we have parking across the road and a zebra crossing.</p> <p>A parent had contacted Mrs Skinner about a poster competition around heightening the children's road safety awareness so that they are aware of the dangers that surround the area of the school and can ensure they can make themselves as safe as possible when coming to and from school.</p> <p>Another suggestion was to involve the Kent Messenger in news coverage about the poster</p>

		<p>competition. They were very supportive in the zebra crossing campaign.</p> <p>Mrs McDowall also offered her services as she works for the KCC and runs a training program called 'small steps' where they target the top 100 schools who could benefit and will come into school to run a program with the year 2 children. They work together with the children and parents of the children to take them out and about in the local area to identify and teach them safe travel. It is a free of charge service. Action point, Mrs McDowall to contact the school if successful.</p>
8	<b>Behaviour Expectations from Children</b>	<p>The values in this school are very well known in terms of respect, teamwork etc, but are the children clear on the outcomes when behaviour is not acceptable. A query of whether this is run across the school in the same way was raised. Mrs Skinner talked through this and explained that there is an agreed grid that the teachers and teaching assistants follow as this exact point was raised back in October by SLT. The school is doing another assembly on this after half term.</p> <p>With regard to new children joining the school, we have what we call our Brunswick House home grown children that have always been with us from reception and know the rules and expectations of Brunswick House but it takes longer for a new pupil to adapt to this. We very much encourage a whole school approach including parents in terms of welcoming and encouraging new children. Brunswick House parents play a vital role in this by asking such questions as "How can we help that child realise that something is not acceptable?" We need to all be working in partnership with each other. Any incidents are followed up with the teaching assistant/teacher, children are allocated buddies and work is done behind the scenes that parents wouldn't see. We up-skill our children to model good behaviour and show other children what is expected.</p> <p>Children do need to know the consequences of their actions.</p> <p>Children are also rewarded for good behaviour and work on the class charts Action point: To remind teachers to move children on the board for good behaviour also.</p>
9	<b>Next Meeting Date</b>	26 <sup>th</sup> March 2019 – Please notify Mrs Whitehead prior to the meeting if you are unable to attend.