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Head: Mrs. C Whatley www.sjbschool.co.uk

Parent Forum

Minutes for the meeting held on
Monday 27th January 2025 @ 5.30pm

Present:

Year R	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Leadership
Karen Zarb Piscopo	Katrina Hayes	Erica Surmaj	Maurice Mynett	Vacancy	Vacancy	Vacancy	Catherine Whatley
	Brenda Mynett	George Knight	Tania Joseph	Vacancy	Vacancy	Vacancy	Sophie Pearson

Item	Information	Actions
1	Welcome	
	Apologies from: Erica Surmaj	
2	Update on:	
	Supporting parents/carers to access information meetings and support their child's learning at home	
	The school will prepare a concise summary of our communications policy to ensure clear and easy access to key information	Two one-page documents have been published to our website and shared with the school community via The School App. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Point raised if it was possible to email this with the documents attached – so could print it off at home or have an electronic copy – whichever works best for parents. <i>Is it possible to download from the website? Can be downloaded from the website: https://www.sjbschool.co.uk/contact-details/ This will be shared again with all parents through the newsletter and app.</i>
	We will continue to prioritize sustainable practices and explore other effective ways to ensure parents remain well-informed	This will be added to our sustainability action plan.
	A “crib sheet” or “top tips” document for each year group at the start of the school year	Staff will develop these during the summer term and they will be available in September. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Karen shared that this has been really useful for current YR cohort. We discussed that it would be great to have these by the end of summer term in prep for September. SP shared that she thought this was the plan. These documents will be shared in the summer term after the turnaround days.
3	Views on:	
3a	Supporting parents/carers with their child's education – future curriculum meetings	



	<p>George: curriculum information on the website is great and he thought that it was one of the best when comparing with other primary schools. Issue is the accessibility of it on the website – how easy/straightforward it is to locate. Possible to have termly or half termly updates? Topic based/wider curriculum based – summary sheets sent home? SP shared Marvellous Me updates link with this too.</p> <p>Ideas to increase engagement with future curriculum meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Perhaps Timing 3.15pm so capture parents at pick up times? - Would it be possible for us to record talk and share? Or to have meeting on Teams? - When/how often will they be happening? Perhaps to have a schedule across the year so an plan ahead. SP shared re Parent in Partnership each term. - Specific to year group at the beginning of the year – meet the teacher. - Year planner on Marvellous Me. 	<p>Marvellous Me updates every term with links to the curriculum maps for ease of parental access.</p> <p>Curriculum Quick Links are on the Marvellous Me app front page for ease of access – these will be reviewed and updated to reduce ‘clicks’ required.</p> <p>Schedule is shared on the termly parent in partnership calendar and reminders are sent via the School App.</p>
<p>3b</p>	<p>Supporting parents/carers with their child’s education – homework</p>	
	<p>Comments shared in discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Too much homework (cumulative over the week), but also that the amount is absolutely fine. - Owls – possible for children attending Owls to do homework/reading. SP shared that this is already taking place and parents of children who attend Owls in meeting said it is helpful when it does and the children engage. - Y2 homework extended challenges work well – but clear that it is optional, which is good. - Feedback for homework – edshed, Maths Whizz. Is Maths Whizz planned by teachers or run on an algorithm? SP shared that it was an algorithm platform. Maths Whizz – quite easy. Blue gems tasks very easy. Red gems more challenging. Doesn’t seem to adapt with the child. The platform is not as well finished as EdShed. SP thanked parents for feedback as we are currently in a trial and that is feedback that we can give to the providers. - Methods in Maths – would it be possible to model one on the homework so that parents can see the 	<p>All classes to consider optional extended challenges for homework following the example of year 2.</p> <p>Staff to review the homework policy to ensure set homework fulfills policy requirements. SLT to consider adding homework review question to next parental survey to gather wider views.</p> <p>Maths Whizz feedback to be shared with Maths Whizz trial co-ordinator.</p> <p>Staff to review methods in maths clips shared in the website and update once visualizers are in place in all classrooms. Share these clips alongside maths homework.</p>



	<p>model and use that to scaffold support they are giving their children when doing homework. SP shared that there are also resource videos on our website that demonstrate methods that we teach and that if there were ever any methods parents were unsure of, the class teachers would be happy to model/go through it.</p>	
4	Discussion on:	
	<p>No parental comments/questions in the post box. We discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Position of the post box. Could the post box be decorated to stand out? - Use of the notice board – calendar and key information? - Slip of paper in bookbags with key areas for discussion noted, anonymous for parents to use to put into the box - Email reminders to parents to share their views - Could reminders be added to every child's homework for that week? SP shared that it could be added as a permanent line on the homework – e.g. questions or suggestions? Add these to the parent forum box on the playground... 	<p>We will trail slips of paper into the bookbag before the next Parent Forum meeting.</p> <p>Staff to add a line to weekly homework as a reminder for feedback.</p>
	<p>Book system – KS2. Can seem patchy/inconsistent. Very different to KS1. SP shared about the children building independence as they move through the school.</p>	
	<p>Presence on KS2 playground has improved. Check ins with the class teacher are really useful. Is there a way of encouraging communication/reaching out if you have any concerns for parents?</p>	
	<p>Please can we have links to songs for Prayer through Song as the children are enjoying the songs and like to share at home.</p>	<p>These will be added to the newsletter and via Marvellous Me following our weekly prayer through song.</p>

Next Meeting – 17th March 2025 at 5.30pm