

Parent forum meeting Minutes 13th January 2015.

Present: Mrs L Ward – Deputy Head teacher, Mrs S Farrell – SENCO/Anti bullying lead,
Parents: CK, SC, KD, SS, KW, LS, AS

Apologies: Mrs J Hutchinson – Head teacher.

Agenda

1. School aims
2. Anti-bullying award
3. Parents evenings
4. AOB

1. School aims

- LW introduced the school's aims and explained that as a school we are in the process of updating them. The work already carried out on this by staff and governors at the January training day was discussed and the final two possibilities were introduced.
- 1. Together we build a strong foundation for the future in a caring environment.
2. To love learning in a happy, friendly environment.
- The general consensus was that with the first aim the words "Together" and "future" were liked but the overall aim was felt to be too wordy. A comment was made that it felt to be more like a secondary school aim, not infant enough.
- The second one "To love ..." was felt to be more punchy and better to understand. A discussion was held about the wording and the overall feeling from the group was that they would like to add the word "together" to the second aim so the it read
- "To love learning together in a happy, friendly, environment"
- A comment was made that "I could explain this one easily to my children and they would buy into it."
- Whether it ought to start with the word "we" rather than the word "to" was also discussed as this was felt to be more inclusive.
- Another comment was made, "if I read the two aims, the bottom one (To love ..) would be the school that I would want to send my child to."
- A short snappy aim was thought to be ideal, if we could shorten the aim even more then that would be even better.

2. Anti-bullying silver award

- Mrs Farrell talked about going for the award and explained that parents were needed to be involved to carry out several tasks.
- She explained about what had been done to achieve the bronze award, and explained that we tend to look at it as friendship rather than anti-bullying as it makes more sense to the age of child. She also pointed out that as a school we have had no reported cases of bullying but all schools need to have an anti-bullying policy.

- She handed out the Anti-bullying policy for all to review and asked for it to be sent back into school with any comments by the end of January.
- She said that she would send out the action plan for the silver award so that everyone could see more about what was involved.

3. Parents evening

- The new way of having a parents evening was discussed.

Disliked – noise in the hall, difficulty of having two children together seeing different teachers after school, length of wait with children, tired fidgety children. Some felt that they hadn't got the time to talk to teachers about little things that they wanted to when the children were there.

Likes – the time to look at and work and talk with the children about it. They all said they loved the “topic days” when they can come in and see what the children are doing.

- The general consensus of the group was that they would like time to come into school and look at the children's work but would like a separate time to talk to their child's teacher.

LW thanked everyone who attended the meeting. It was great to gain the opinions of parents from all year groups in the school.

Next meeting:

Tuesday 24th February 6pm at school.

The Silver anti-bullying award would be the main item on the agenda.