



Parent Forum Meeting
6th February 2023 – 9am

Mrs S Waller, Mrs S Leaf & Mrs S Sterrett

Minutes of the initial St Nicholas Parent Forum meeting held at the school

Prior to the meeting, letters were sent on 24th January 2023 inviting parents/carers of all children to attend.

4 Parents in attendance

1. Introductions

Mrs Waller welcomed parents and introduced herself to them as new Executive Headteacher of St Nicholas Primary School. Parents were asked to introduce themselves; so that Mrs Waller could ascertain which children they had attending the school. After the introductions, Mrs Waller went on to explain why the parent forum has been introduced to St Nicholas and her vision for how this can be used by parents and carers, as a platform for them to ask questions, make suggestions and share views, enabling them to actively contribute to making a difference to their children's school experience.

HH & NG

Attended the parent forum in support for the school and with gratefulness for the care and support their child has been given throughout his school life so far. They feel that communication from and between staff involved within the various areas of teaching, pastoral care and medical care has been proficient, and praised staff for the care which has been given.

Mrs Leaf and Mrs Waller spoke about St Nicholas open door policy, which they hoped encouraged parents to feel they could come into school at any time, to discuss any issues they may have, negative or positive.

Action - Mrs Waller suggested it might be a good idea to send out a parent views questionnaire around Easter time.

HI

Expressed her happiness with the school from the perspective of all her children attending St Nicholas and that again, she was happy with the support to the children, in particular from Mrs Leaf and the communication on medical issues.

AL

Attending to support the school and was happy with the level of communication from class teachers and office staff

2. Points for consideration

2.1 Mrs Leaf raised the issue of using a St Nicholas JustGiving account for our fundraising events to ask for parents' opinions on this method, as this has previously been a discussion topic with some parents. Mrs Leaf explained that as a school we did not want parents to feel a pressure to have to donate and that by using JustGiving, this could be done anonymously. We are also a cashless school and using JustGiving means we are not holding money on site. Although for

those unable to use this method, we have previously been able to accept a small amount of change.

2.2 Mrs Leaf also explained the function of our School Fund, which has been used for the benefit of the children with various activities within school and to subsidise school trips for all year groups.

2.3 Mrs Leaf went on to speak about the various theme days we have in school e.g. number day, world book day etc. and how we would like this to continue as much as possible. Concerns were raised about the potential costs of an outfit, however, it was explained that often children and staff like to make their own outfits and accessories in school to tie in with theme days, with the view to make this easier for parents. It was agreed that children find these days exciting and educationally beneficial, and this should continue if possible.

2.4 Further conversation took place on the topic of school trips and how it was decided where a class would visit, whether it be a local trip or a trip going a little further afield. Mrs Leaf explained that school trips were booked at venues or for events, which tie in to a particular topic, with the aim of helping the children engage further in their learning.

2.5 Mrs Leaf updated parents that catch up bikeability training had been booked for the Year 5 children as they start Year 6, as they weren't able to complete this in Year 5 due to availability and backlog issues arising from Covid. This will take place in the Autumn Term.

3. Parent suggestions

The following suggestions were made by the parents in attendance and Mrs Waller agreed a meeting would be arranged between herself, Mrs Leaf and Mrs Sterrett, after the half term to look at these proposals.

3.1 A change to the time of the Golden Assembly from 10.30am to nearer 9am, with the view that it may enable parents to make the school drop off and attend this directly afterwards, rather than having to come back at a later time or have further time off work. A notice period of a few more days may also help i.e. if the text was sent on a Wednesday for the following week's assembly.

3.2 A suggestion for a comprehensive diary dates letter, including dates for workshops, events and all activities parents should be made aware of, in advance of these dates.

3.3 A suggestion for children to start music lessons in Year 4

Resolved - In response to 3.3, Mrs Leaf explained the current arrangements with the music service and that we are looking into starting violin lessons in Year 5. These costs have to be balanced between school budgets and parent contributions. Mrs Sterrett also mentioned the free workshops mentioned by Mr Cliff, which are provided by Hull Music Service at the Albermarle Centre, which are available for those unable to access music lessons in school.

Action – Arrange to discuss parent suggestions and produce comprehensive diary dates letter

Mrs Waller thanked parents for their attendance and for their contributions. A time for the next Parent Forum Meeting would be arranged and parents would be notified of this

Action - Next Parent Forum Meeting TBC