

Alderman White School Parents' Forum

Wednesday 1st March 2017

Representing Alderman White: N Caley, P Heery, L Rockley, T Hyland

Parents: N Peddie, K Thomas, E Fulton, J Walker, S Watson, C Goodyear, A Carroll, F Wright, M O'Reilly, K Woolley

Topic	Discussion	Action
<p>Previous Minutes</p>	<p>Rewards – Postcards being sent out at 50 inspire points. Students have raised the issue that the shop is no longer available. Mr Foster is sourcing gifts with a budget of £250 until the end of the academic year. This will be used to reward at 150 and 300 points. A new system will be introduced in Sep 17.</p> <p>Concern was expressed that teachers were not awarding points consistently across year groups and classes. TH said this was being raised and addressed at teaching and learning meetings.</p> <p>Graduation - Mr Stephan had fed back to TH that he was considering using INSPIRE points and adjusting the weighted value of attendance on school trips in the graduation calculation process.</p> <p>Go4Schools – TH said that the recording of homework consistently on G4S was still an issue which was being addressed. He asked parents present to provide feedback at next forum on student reports and attitude to learning</p> <p>Building Update – PH provided an update on the progress so far which was primarily the Bramcote Build. Resubmitting a bid in Autumn 2017 for new building at front of AWS.</p> <p>Uniform – The issue of coats not being allowed to be worn in dining hall was raised. NC explained that the only area which is potentially cold is near the fire escape door which children can avoid sitting by if it is an issue for them.</p>	<p>Parents to provide feedback at next meeting on G4S reports and attitude to learning.</p> <p>Parents to fill in consultation document to support school bid.</p>
	<p>Astroturf still seems to be a slipping hazard – NC said it had been examined by</p>	

	<p>contractors and the problem seems to relate to drainage in one area which the children are aware of. New equipment is being installed (basketball posts) and the area is supervised when is use. External table tennis tables are also about to be ordered.</p> <p>Y9 GCSE Options – TH said that feedback from parents suggests that the process has been successful this year. Almost all AW children will be based at AW site for lessons in Y10 next year. The handful of students who have had clashes of timetables have been made aware of other options.</p> <p>Aspirational targets – TH asked parents to consider whether aspirational targets should be raised if a pupil is at target for a long time,</p>	<p>Parents to provide feedback at next forum on aspirational targets.</p>
Clare Goodyear – Parent Director	<p>Clare introduced herself as the Chair of the Student and Community Committee which meets termly and asked what she could do to support the parent forum. It was agreed that the minutes of the parent forum should be forwarded to the committee and a standard agenda item be added to the parent forum which reports back on the Student and Community Committee. Clare also agreed to consider adding items to the weekly federation newsletter.</p>	<p>Secretary to add report from Student and Community Committee as a regular agenda item for future meetings.</p>
School Trips	<p>It was suggested that it would be useful for parents to know when school trips are likely to take place in a communication at the beginning of the school year. Mr Stephan had reported back to NC that he already knows the dates of the trips for next year so a summary of school trips could be added to the school website.</p> <p>A discussion took place about the emailing of trip letters to appropriate families identified by subject or year group.</p> <p>It would be helpful if a clash of parent consultations and school trip departures could be avoided if known in advance although it was recognised that sometimes clashes may occur.</p> <p>Parents present whose children had recently returned from the German</p>	<p>Mr Stephan to arrange for a summary of school trips to be put on website.</p> <p>NC to explore possibility of emailing letters to parents and including hyperlinks on newsletters.</p>

	Exchange congratulated the team on a very successful trip and NC was asked to pass on her thanks to Andrea for stepping in to support the trip at such late notice	NC to pass on thanks from parents to Andrea.
Mock Exams	Two versions of the mock exam schedule had been distributed. The Y10 mock exam would be sent out again on Thursday to ensure everyone had the latest copy. Pupils had also been given sight of the GCSE statement of entry paperwork. The schedule will be on the website next Wednesday 8 th March.	Any paperwork/letters sent home to students will be emailed to relevant parents.
Twilight GCSEs	<p>Concern was expressed by parents of children in Y10 who had been given deadlines in March and April for submitting work. Were these deadlines realistic and what could parents do to support children with time management? LR reported that Mr Ramsden had extended the Product Design deadline to the end of the Easter Holidays. An extension to the drama essay deadline had also been given to support pupils who had been on the German Exchange. A Y9 parent asked about whether pupils could attend after school on other days to complete portfolio work but it was confirmed that for H&S reasons that would only be possible if supervised by a member of staff.</p> <p>Time management schedules are available in The Base to support pupils. Drama exam would be 18/5. Product Design likely to be end of June.</p> <p>It was expressed that the Duke of Edinburgh Scheme was a particular pressure concern for Y10 pupils this year.</p>	
AOB	<p>Exams - Could a schedule of likely exam times for all year groups be published to help parents and children plan better? TH confirmed that this was already available on the school website.</p> <p>No Touch policy – NC confirmed that this was a safeguarding measure introduced earlier in the year to avoid inappropriate behaviour. Pupils were expected to use a common-sense approach.</p> <p>The ruling about large groups of pupils not being allowed to walk around together was</p>	

	<p>related to an isolated incident which was no longer an issue.</p> <p>Access to lockers – because of a safety concern relating to scaffolding access to the PE area had been limited.</p> <p>Biology Teacher Vacancy – It was confirmed that a new science teacher had been appointed and would be joining school after Easter.</p>	<p>NC/TH to ensure that notices are changed to allow access to lockers. The policy of access to lockers in the new block in the first and last five minutes of break/lunch would continue.</p>
--	---	--