

## Parent Forum minutes

Meeting on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2026

Apologies: Sara Bradley (Chair); Sonja Kawash; Celine Gilbert

Attendees: Mrs York; Christine Leddy (Co-Chair); Vicky Goncalves; Mel Morris; Silvana Hill

1. Christine opening the meeting.
2. Discussion regarding previous meeting minutes, 21<sup>st</sup> November 2025.

Noted that school have pulled back their use of Instagram. Moving towards using this platform for general themes only and limiting the use of children's images.

Attendance is at 95.8% against a national average of 94.8% but not hitting our target. To be an agenda item for next meeting. Mrs York to send out data prior to meeting.

A general email regarding WhatsApp was sent out to remind all to be respectful.

3. Uniform feedback:- 89 responses. 26% teal, 36% navy, 38% green. Decision between navy and green. Next step is pupil responses. Children will be given context for colour choice. Hoping before February half term. Decision hoping to be March. Confirmed a phased transition of new uniform with logo and possible colour change no time limit. Infant School considering colour change. Consistency was discussed but Mrs York made the point that they are two different schools and the same uniform makes the transition less distinct. Uniform is a school decision and not a Circle Trust decision.

Communication feedback:- 39 mixed responses. Decision to streamline Newsletter. A brief summary and the celebration separate. The SEND update taken out and to be added sporadically or perhaps half-termly. Perhaps there may be a separate SEND Newsletter. There will be ad hoc emails for specific thing with subject headers to allow for easier searching through inboxes.

4. EMAILS TO PARENT FORUM:

- **Mrs Liddiard teaching for 2 days per week and taken away from SEND work.** Mrs York responded to say that this will be the case for the foreseeable future as there is no set time frame. Mrs Liddiard will have minimal planning. The SEND work has never been Mrs Liddiard's whole role and her work has been accommodated between other staff members. SEND has a high priority in terms of inclusion for which all staff are responsible for. Mrs York taking on SEND qualification. Taking on some of the work to support SEND oversight and provision. Mrs Wade has a full-time support role as Family Support Worker and is always on the gate together with other staff members – nurture team and LSA's. Nurture Team consists of Mrs York, Mrs Liddiard, Mrs Wade, Miss Jones, Mrs Wilding, Mr Spencer & Miss Meldrum. Varied program of interventions including nurture through sport as well as drama to support transitions. PTA fund all drama workshops. It was agreed in the meeting that the nurture provision needs to be championed more including the new room that is being worked on currently. School could also make more of there being no pressure on any children for assessments taking place during the year, including end of Key Stage 2 SATs, which take place in May of year 6
- **PE in the rain and children wearing wet shoes all day.** Mrs York has conversed with Mrs Threlfall. It has been agreed that sports will not take place on the field when raining and muddy. Outdoor PE will be avoided in extreme weather conditions. The

playground can be split between the PE groups (x2 classes). Not always possible to use the hall as it is usually in use at the same time as the playground. It was suggested that we ask Infant School if their playground can be used. Mrs York had not considered this. There are spare football boots available to use and there is no requirement for parents to provide any extra PE equipment. Discussed Astro turf 'MUGA'. This was considered a few years ago but is not considered an option for the school. Discussed the possibility of adjusting the timetable as outdoor PE is scheduled the day before indoor PE which can be an issue for families and provided clean PE kit. Mrs York confirmed that shoes can be removed in class when damp.

- **Spelling Shed when actively trying to reduce screen time.** The spelling curriculum the school has chosen is the Spelling Shed programme. They have a range of activities and the on-line element is an add on available for pupils to reinforce what has been studied in class that week. The statutory spellings are the tricky words on the national curriculum. Spelling rules are on top of this and looked at weekly in class. Monday and Tuesday introduced to a spelling rule and group work on Tuesdays. Home learning reinforces this if parents chose to do this. There is no expectation from the school to do so. There are no assessments only practice. Mrs York expressed that on-line (homework) is the way things are going (Secondary School). Parents are welcome to email or ask teacher to share the medium-term overview if they chose not to use Spelling Shed but would like to support at home. In school there are termly spelling assessments consisting of 20 questions. The marking and feedback policy is available for parents on the website. Feedback on assessment data will be given at parent's evenings.
- **Removing certificates for TTRS takes away the incentive.** The certificate change has come about as the same children get the certificates and the others are not recognised. It is now a class based not individual certificates and these are given out in celebration assembly every Friday. The going green refers to the individual showing fluency in all 12 times tables. This gives a motivation to learn. High intensity times table teaching in years 3 & 4. Mrs York reiterated the home learning ask for parents – TTRS x3 times weekly and home reading daily. Spelling Shed is additional. There are no consequences if not completed and but additional support will be given in school if needed. The core focus is reading and times tables. There is no requirement for spellings and there will be no rewards given at this moment in time.

**5. CLARIFY DATES FOR PARENT FORUM**

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March - Open Forum and Exhibition morning. Mrs York to ensure this is on Newsletter.

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May - Year Group reps

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June - Year Group reps

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July – Open Forum

- 6. Next Open Forum.** Discussed need for minutes to be taken for Open Forum meetings. Mrs York to make power point available on website. However, this does not capture the discussion. Perhaps the Open Forums should be taken out of the remit of Parent Forum? This depends on the topic. Next meeting Mrs York to discuss Ofsted framework as the inspection and report card has changed considerably and we are now in the inspection window. Also discussed possibility of sharing the ethos around assessments and SATs.

- 7. Date for September 2026.** Not discussed.

- 8. AOB.** Terms of Reference. Discussed. Action on Co-chair to make changes and return to Mrs York.