



Barley Lane Primary School

Parent Forum Minutes

6th October 2022 (9:15 am, Junior Hall)

Email: parentforum@barleylane.redbridge.sch.uk



In attendance: *Staff:* Mr Henry (Headteacher) *Parents:* approx. 50 parents attended

Notes	Actions
<p>1. Welcome and Actions from the previous meeting Mr Henry thanked parents coming; turnout was much better than in previous years. The aims and remit of the parent forum were explained. Actions from previous meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Friends' Association (BLPFA): clarity sought last meeting on how the school's Parent Teacher Association (PTA) worked and how parents could get involved. This has been addressed and the BLPFA circulated a newsletter to all parents last week, outlining plans for events and how to get involved. - Coffee Mornings: Suggestion at last meeting that the school trial days other than Fridays for coffee mornings. Autumn Term 2022 dates as follows: Tuesday 29th September / Thursday 20th October / Tuesday 29th November / Wednesday 7th December A request had been made for a creche for families to attend coffee mornings, Mr Henry explained that parents would be welcome to volunteer to run this, as our staff are in class during this time and unavailable 	
<p>2. Safeguarding Mr Henry talked about the importance of safeguarding, how the school works with the community and external agencies and asked parents to be vigilant and inform the school of specific issues. Mrs Ballantyne is the DSL, and parents were shown the list of Safeguarding Team members. Parents encouraged to speak to us if they have any concerns about their child's social emotional and mental health as our Pastoral Team can support with this.</p>	
<p>3. Carpet Time for EY/KS1 A parent submitted and request for the school to reconsider 'carpet time' for children, as they felt that this can lead to illness and absence. Mr Henry explained that the classrooms are cleaned daily, including carpet hoovering and surfaces being cleaned. It is standard practice in all schools for children in EYFS and KS1 to use the carpet as part of their lessons as they are not ready to sit at desks all day. It's used for the main teaching input and we aim to minimize their time on the carpet and move them to their independent activities as soon as they can. By the time they reach KS2, carpet time is not used.</p>	
<p>4. Diversity: Books and Curriculum A parent submitted an agenda item querying whether there is a need for more inclusive/diverse books at the school. Mr Henry explained that there has been a major drive to diversify the books in libraries and classrooms throughout our work in</p>	<p>Diversity of books and within the curriculum remains a priority, and the</p>

<p>diversifying the curriculum over the past two years. Children should have access to authors and stories which reflect their own identities. These might not always be apparent with the 'Stage' books which the children are sent home but certainly with their free reading books. The school has invested in a lot of books and visiting authors and workshops, including workshops from Sufiya Ahmed and Onjali Rauf. There is more work to be done and it remains a priority.</p>	<p>parent curriculum working party will resume in autumn 2, meeting to be scheduled for November</p>
<p>5. Redbridge Book Awards A parent queried whether we would be getting involved in the Redbridge Book Awards; this has been passed to the relevant members of staff.</p>	<p>School to consider joining the programme this term</p>
<p>6. School Development Plan Priorities</p> <p>Mr Henry provided an overview of our school development plan priorities which result from our data and other factors. They fall under the five Ofsted Inspection Framework criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Quality of Education 2. Personal Development 3. Behaviour and Attitudes 4. Leadership and Management 5. EYFS <p>Mr Henry provided some examples of how staff are trained and developed, and how leaders ensure that standards are high – e.g. SLT book looks and weekly after-school CPD sessions for teachers</p>	<p>School to send home English and Maths books on 14th October, prior to the parent consultation meetings on 20th October. Parents encouraged to talk with their children about the books and their learning.</p>
<p>7. AOB</p> <p>Some additional questions from parents:</p> <p>11+ Test Preparation support: Request for support and advice to be provided for parents with children sitting 11+ to include recommendations for tuition. Mr Henry explained that as a local authority maintained school, we do not get involved in 11+ exams for Grammar Schools. We prepare the pupils for KS2 SATs and unfortunately cannot recommend external tuition companies.</p> <p>Physical Health: Query regarding how the school supports physical health and whether yoga is a part of our curriculum. Mr Henry explained that children are entitled to two PE sessions per week, one is usually delivered by the class teacher and the other by cover staff. Year 5 children go swimming in summer term at Mayfield School. Yoga is not part of the curriculum but we can consider running a club in future.</p> <p>Library Times and Book Club: Suggestion that we reopen the library after school for families to visit and that we consider running an after-school or lunchtime book club</p>	<p>School to consider library opening after school for parents and a book club</p>
<p>8. Time and Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 15th November 6pm via Zoom</p>	