



Gaer Primary School

Parent Forum 13 October 2017 at 09:00am

Present: Head teacher Mr Smith; Chair of Governors Hannah Berry

Governing Body: Rachel Anderson-Howells, Canon Jenny Mole & Mrs Johnston

1. Head teacher welcome	Mr Smith welcomed everyone to the forum including PTA and Governing Body representatives. Fantastic turnout with approximately 30 parents/grandparents/guardians in attendance
2. Introductions	Governing Body representatives PTA members
3. Context of meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Smith outlined successes and plans going forward Requested all not to name individuals in the forum Requested for no direct challenge Requested to allow individuals to participate in a fair manner by raise of hands
4. Holistic view of school within the education sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Standards are currently high at the school Discussed categorisation. Progressing really well. Currently Yellow with a possibility of being Green in January 2018.

5. Invite questions from the floor

Email from parent	Positive feedback received about school and didn't approve of social media posts and recent discussions	No further action required
Letter from parent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Communication issues – missing letters as child attends wrap around care. ➤ Enquired about app called Seesaw ➤ Request for staff to update website more frequent ➤ Twitter is hit and miss with some teachers tweeting and others that don't 	Mr Smith will respond to each point raised to the parent in writing
BL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Earrings – inconsistent with PE, Daily Mile and dancing. ➤ Asked if parents could apply plasters before school ➤ Asked if parents could sign a disclaimer 	<p>PE Policy in place as we are governed by Welsh Government and Newport City Council.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Smith has spoken to staff regarding all physical activities

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Smith will seek clarity on disclaimers and feedback at next forum
FP	➤ Paper copies of letters – Understands the purpose of paperless but has requested paper copies of letters and paperwork	School is currently piloting a paperless scheme with year 6 however, it is not set in stone as trialling for this academic year.
TS	➤ PE Policy – The policy was not sent to parents in the welcome pack. Could the school remind all parents/guardians of the policy and send out a copy to all?	Mr Smith to action this point
BL	➤ What will the children do if cannot participate in PE?	Mr Smith gave an explanation of the curriculum and expectation
BP	➤ Asked about concerts and siblings attending	Mr Smith appreciates the difficulties of seeking alternative childcare. A crèche was implemented last Christmas but cannot continue with this. Mr Smith has not stated that parents cannot bring siblings however, decision have to be made as children and staff work very hard.
FP	➤ Can plasters be worn over earrings?	This is not permitted due to allergies
FP	➤ Could parents volunteer to run a crèche?	Unfortunately not. Mr Smith suggested using social media to ask friends to support each other regarding childcare
TS	➤ Could the school hold evening concerts?	Mr Smith will explore options but it is very difficult to hold evening sessions
Parent	➤ Left concert previously due to baby needing breastmilk	The school is breastfeeding friendly school
Parent	➤ Can parents know concert dates sooner?	Dates for Christmas concerts have been sent out this week to all
GB	➤ Could the school consider livestreaming the concerts?	Unfortunately not due to Child Protection issues. Mr Smith will explore a video/disc option as the footage can be edited and the PTA could support with selling.
ZG	➤ Evening performances can be difficult as children do not come back for the concert.	

	➤ ZG is finding the year 6 paperless trial useful	
BP	➤ Photo consent – not happy that photos of her child were featured on the Twitter page	Mr Smith to investigate and feedback to parent
KB	➤ Concerns raised around the toilets	There are issues with the building being Grade ii listed. Mr Smith is currently liaising with Newport City Council
SG	➤ Suggested setting up a 'student style' forum so a small number of parents can speak on behalf of other parents/guardians	Mr Smith will explore options and feedback with the most appropriate choice

6. AOB	<p>Mr Smith made a direct request that items are not posted on social media. Whilst he cannot dictate to what individuals post, he cannot condone derogatory remarks/comments.</p> <p>Mrs Berry, Chair of Governors highlighted to all the correct way of making a complaint. The Complaints Policy is available on the website www.gaerprimary.co.uk or at reception upon request.</p>
7. Date of future meeting	<p>Requested a monthly forum.</p> <p>Mr Smith will confirm next date over the next few weeks</p>