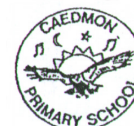




CAEDMON COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL



Parents Forum Meeting Friday 24th June 2011

Present at meeting:

Clive Wisby (Head Teacher)	Miss Irene Jones (Year 1)
Mrs Amanda Harbertson (Year 1)	Mrs Dawn Darling (Year 1)
Ms Emma Frost (Reception & Year 1)	Ms Gemma Graham (Rec & Nursery)
Ms Aster Medhanie (Nursery)	Mr & Mrs Heblj (Reception)
Miss Irene Bloomfield (Year 1)	Mrs Yefims (Nursery)
Mrs Philippa Swanston (Admin Officer)	

Mr Wisby explained that Education City has now been updated with all the children's names, new login details would be given to the children. The staff will be updating their respective sections of the site.

The school website will be updated every first Friday of each month for children's work. Mr Wisby was going to consider the possibility of homework being added to the website, in the meantime we will continue to hand out homework as before and set some on the Education City site.

There were no updates on using the life channel. Parents pointed out that the screen in the bottom yard was difficult to see because of the glare. Mr Wisby informed them that a canopy was due to be installed over the summer holiday and hopefully this would stop the problem of the glare, if it didn't the screen would be moved to a better location.

Parents enquired whether the homework books that Nursery and Reception classes use could be used in other classes. Mr Wisby said it was something that year 1 and 2 were considering for the next academic year. Homework was being looked at generally across school, plans to move away from worksheets and to more adventurous types of homework were due to be rolled out next academic year.

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Mr Wisby asked if the parents had enjoyed Richard King's fitness class last week. A couple of the parents said they had joined in and it was enjoyable and had spread the word so hopefully the numbers would increase.

The issue of headlice was raised again, parents asked if the school nurse was available. It was explained that this was something that had ended a few years ago. The current advice is to keep long hair tied back, use a shampoo with teatree oil in e.g. Vosene and that a hair treatment is available free from some chemists (K & A Pharmacy, Old Durham Road) and all members of the family should be treated at the same time.

Parents raised the question of castle points and how they were awarded in school. Mr Wisby explained that they were awarded by all staff for many different reasons and a treat was given to the winning castle at different times of the year. He said he was going to relaunch the castle points system in school so that all children were aware of how they could earn points and how many points each castle had at any one time.

Mr Wisby explained that there had been 2 new teacher appointments and was looking forward to starting the next year with a full compliment of teachers.

Mr Wisby ran through some of the agenda for the coffee morning on 12th July. Ex boxer Glen McCrory was coming in to school to inspire the children. Parents were asked to contribute to the world food tasting session. A flyer would be sent out with the children next week with further details.

Parents noted that the noticeboard still carries old news. Thanks go to Gemma Graham who volunteered to update it when she was in school.

Parents raised the question of when the school photographs would be done. Mr Wisby confirmed that they would be done some time during week commencing 11th July. A text would be sent to parents informing them of the date their child would be photographed. The plan is to take both single shots, sibling shots and class photographs. They would all have 1 print

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produced and would be on sale in school, orders for extra prints would be taken. The date to be confirmed.

Mr Wisby informed the parents of the building works being carried out over the summer holiday. A new fence is to be installed running alongside the current red fence, which will create a corridor to stop children walking across the car park. Mr Wisby explained that problems at the beginning and end of the school day were of concern to him. A letter with new rules about keeping children close by had been sent out. Any children seen without a parent would be noted and measures would be taken to prevent a re-occurrence.

Mr Wisby explained about the transition process in school and how important it was for this year's teachers to meet with next year's teachers to exchange data on children, this ensures that children begin the new term with work set for their current level. A letter will be sent out to parents to explain when their child will be visiting with their new teacher in their new class. Reports are due to be given out at the parents meeting on 11th July. Mr Wisby also explained about Read Write Inc and how this would be used in the new academic year which will improve reading and writing levels across school.

Parents asked if it was possible to have a zebra crossing on Whitehall Road, they were concerned about the children crossing the road and not having good sight of oncoming traffic because of the parking and also because some cars park on the pavement making it difficult to cross. Mr Wisby confirmed that he would again approach the council regarding a zebra crossing. Parents also raised concerns over the ice-cream van parked every day outside school. Mr Wisby explained that we are in constant contact with the traffic police and ask them to make spot checks as often as possible and ask drivers to park more considerately away from the school.

Parents raised the issue of bike racks. Mr Wisby said he would look into the possibility once the planned building works had been completed.

Mr Wisby explained he had to close school to children on 30th June because of industrial action by some teachers.

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Parents were informed that school would re-open following the summer holiday on Monday 5th September but would be closed to children on 12th and 13th September for teacher training.

Parents raised concerns over clashes of date e.g. parent forum meeting, class assembly and family learning all happening at the same time on the same day. It was explained that this time of year is extremely busy and it is difficult to fit everything in. Mr Wisby also relied on dates being entered in the diary to avoid clashes of this nature. This was something that we tried to avoid but sometimes it was unavoidable.

Mr Wisby explained that it looked as though year 4 would, once again have the treat for the best attendance by a whole class.

Date of next meeting:
Friday 16th September at 9:00 - 10:15.

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