

Parent Voice Representative Meeting

Date: 18/11/2016

Focus: Homework

Present: Debbie Willemse, Val Hayllar (6M) Sarah Zandt (3H)
Natalie Wheatcroft (6T & 4T) Bev Leyshon (6T) Vicky Williams (4S)
Sharon Bright (5MG &3H) Verity Butler (4T) Debra Blogg (3H & centre)

<i>Item</i>	<i>Details/ notes</i>
Introduction	The aim of the Parent voice meetings is to gather parents views and to be a sounding board for changes etc. All parents are welcome to attend, not just the parent voice reps.
Aim	The aim of this meeting is to look at the homework policy, update it and share. We established that the existing policy is old and not even on the website. We are going to look at this together with a sample policy. The resource 'Index for inclusion' (which helps the school to check they are being inclusive) has a page on homework which we will also be looking at.
Discussion	We looked at homework under these headings: 1.Purpose 2.Suggestions 3.Expectations and 4.Problems. Most of the discussion centred around problems and time ran out so all parent voice reps took home the sample & old homework policy to read through and to hand back to Mrs Willemse with their suggestions. Mrs Willemse runs a homework club on Tuesday lunch times which has open access – free to anyone that needs help or time to do homework.
1.Purpose	Purpose was not specifically discussed but we touched on what it says on the existing policy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consolidation and reinforcing skills and understanding • Extending school learning • Encouraging pupils as they get older to develop the confidence and self discipline needed to study on their own.
2.Suggestions	Suggestion was posed that stickers could be used in planners eg red for maths, blue for English so that parents know when homework has been set. Spare homework sheets could be readily available. Check needs to be made who hasn't handed work in and a clear record kept of this. Could homework be put on the website somehow? What happened to Frog VLE? Apparently there is a move away for VLE in primary schools, it was agreed that it was never used effectively anyway.
3.Expectations	Question was asked – what is the punishment for not doing homework? It seems there is no consistency throughout school but there needs to be.
4.Problems	Parents need to know what is set and the due date- inconsistency of using planner for this purpose. Consequence of not handing in needs to be clear – we agreed parents should be notified the second time this happens. There are not clear enough instructions on the homework sheet. If parents are to help they need to be able to read and understand what has to be done. Examples are helpful, particularly in maths. Parents were surprised that a comprehension type of homework was peer

	marked. It was felt that teacher feedback was needed for this type of work.
a.o.b	School dinners, some parents felt they were not sufficient. Friends money – who decides where money goes? Parents would like to be considered/asked. Class reps- not the same as parent voice rep, we don't have them at Oakfield.
Going forwards	Parent voice reps to forward their suggestions on the policies provided to Mrs Willemse. Mrs Willemse to collate and take action as required. Next meeting date to be confirmed.