



May 2018

Dear Parents,

Parent Partnership is an informal meeting between teachers and parents and an opportunity to have a discussion about topics relating to school life. Thanks go to representatives who gave up their time to attend Parent Partnership in May.

Nursery			
Reception			
Year 1	Mrs Brown		
Year 2		Mrs Gardner	Mrs Hussain
Staff	Mrs Farkas	Mrs Morrison	
Apologies were received from Mrs Chapman, Mrs Fryer & Mrs Parfitt			

Items brought by Year 2 Parents

- Parents commented on how much the children are enjoying the rainforest topic
- Parents commented that children are enjoying using the field
- Parents praised teachers for how well the SATs have been handled as they did it in a fun way which didn't stress the children out.
- Parents enjoyed the reading workshop and found the video about SATs very useful and interesting. Parents commented they would like more time of the session to be devoted to the activity and have a shorter presentation.
- Parents from Rowan commented that Mrs Crouch was well liked by the children and parents are pleased she has been kept on while Miss Jackson is on a phased return. Parents wanted to know if she will be kept on until the end of term as it would be good for the children to have consistency. Mrs Farkas was pleased Mrs Crouch was well liked by the children, but staffing matters are beyond the remit of the group.
- Parents wanted to know if a date had been set for Sports Day. Mrs Morrison stated this will be in the Year 2 Newsletter.
- Parents wondered why Year 2 did not go on the RSC Stratford on-Avon Trip this year and if another school trip was planned. Mrs Morrison commented that unfortunately the RSC has raised their prices which makes the trip cost prohibited. Coming straight after Christmas she thought it wasn't fair to ask parents. Parents agreed and expressed disappointment that this trip is now too expensive. Mrs Morrison said that more details about future school trips will be in this week's newsletter.
- Some parents have asked what provision has been made this term for children who need extra help with maths. One parent has been told that Busy Bees has been running for those who are advanced and was concerned that it might have been more beneficial to have Busy Bees running for children who needed extra support. Mrs Morrison said a lot goes on in school that parents are not privy to. School runs many intervention groups and Busy Bees is just one of these interventions. The school has tracks the achievement of all children in all year groups closely and offers Busy Bees for a variety of reasons. For instance this term they are running one on maths and one for handwriting. Whereas in year 1 the focus is on phonics.

Parent Partnership

- Mrs Farkas added that Busy Bees is not directed teaching time and only runs because of the goodwill of the teachers. Parents present expressed their appreciation for teachers running Busy Bees and giving up their time.

Items brought by Year 1 Parents

- Parents mentioned that the children really enjoyed the British Values non-uniform day
- Parents mentioned that children are enjoying playing on the field. Mrs Farkas said school had plans to keep developing the outside area starting with the space outside Blossomfield Childcare. Then the school will be refurbishing the toilet blocks and have a long term plan to bring the original building up to a similar specification as the new building. Plans are also in place to replace the interactive screens, in each of the classroom in the original building, with the latest technology. Mrs Farkas outlined the schools vision for further developing the outside space. School would like to develop various activity zones for the children to play in and quiet zones where children can read or colour quietly. The new playworker has being a great success and is working well with all classes to ensure they all get a fair turn on the play equipment and playing games. The playworker is also teaching the children how to safely use the new equipment as well as new games that they are really enjoying.

Items brought by Nursery Parents

- One parent asked if school lunch menus are on the website and how can you find out what your child has eaten. Mrs Farkas confirmed that school menus are on the website and by using 'ParentPay' you can see what your child has had to eat that day.

School Items

Transition to Junior School

- Mrs Farkas explained the timetable for transition to Junior School, a lot of work goes into this as unlike other infant schools Blossomfield feeds into several schools rather than just the one. As part of the induction process Headteachers from Shirley Heath and Sharman's Cross will come to school and give an assembly after half term. This will be followed by the SENCO leads for each school being available for parents to come and have a chat to if they have any concerns about their children that they wish to discuss. Parents should make an appointment via Mrs Cooper
- As part of transition Year 2 children will also have a buddy who they will write to and attend a buddy morning/afternoon at their new school where they will get to meet their buddy who will show they round.
- Dates will also be in this week's Year 2 newsletter for the transition days when children will get to spend time meeting their new teacher and class. Teachers would kindly welcome parent volunteers to help children with the walk to their new school.

Induction to Foundation

- Mrs Farkas informed the group that unlike previous years, Reception children will not be automatically put into classes before they join the school. Teachers will set aside 4 days and invite different children in groups of 15 to come into school for a morning or afternoon induction session. 3 staff will work with each group of 15 children to assess

their readiness for school. Children will then be placed into their class groups and by the end of the first school week in September children and their parents will be told who their class teacher for the year will be.

This is because a lot of children who join the school are not from Blossomfield Nursery. These smaller sessions will help teachers to get to know the children before they are put into permanent classes. Parents thought this was a fantastic idea and really welcomed this new approach.

- Parents also mentioned this could be suggested to the Junior Schools as concerns have been raised about how one Junior School tends to split up friends and place children in classes where the make-up of the class is detrimental to the child. Parents asked if more time could be given to ensuring Junior Schools don't ignore the advice of Infant Schools and put more time into class selection. Mrs Morrison said she had spoken to several parents about this and whilst we advise the Junior Schools the decision about class groupings ultimately lies with them. She agreed that she will raise the issue with the Lower School Lead.

Blossomfield's 60th Birthday!

- Blossomfield School is 60 years old which is a fantastic milestone. During the week commencing 2nd July Teachers the school will be holding a week of festivities and celebrations. School would like parent's ideas for how to celebrate this great occasion. Parents suggested children could do a mosaic like the ones done for the names of classes. One parent suggested something could be done where the old mural use to be on the wall. One parent mentioned that in her previous school she had done a newsletter to commemorate the occasion using old photos and the Headteacher's log. Other suggestion mentioned at the meeting were; a time line, a party day and come in non-uniform. Mrs Farkas thanked the group for their ideas and would welcome all Parent's and Grandparent's contributions. The Mayor will be coming during this week to wish Blossomfield a Happy Birthday and to officially open the new building. The week ends with the School Summer Fayre which could have a 'Happy 60th Blossomfield' theme!

Thanks to Mrs Gardner for taking the minutes.

NEXT MEETING: Friday 13th July 2018 @ 9am