



October 16

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 October. We would be delighted to have representation from our Nursery and Year 2 Parents at the next meeting which is on November 30th at 7pm. Please speak to a member of staff or one of the parents below if you are interested and would like a little more information.

N			
R	Mr Shaw	Mr Hussain	
1	Mr Shaw	Mrs Gardner	
2			
Staff	Mrs Farkas	Mrs Morrison	Mrs Church

Areas of discussion included:

Induction

Induction was shorter this year for both Nursery and Reception children. School feels that it is important to respond to previous parental concerns that induction was too long, whilst ensuring that teachers still have an opportunity to get to know the children in smaller groups at the beginning of the year. Parents who attended reported that feedback indicated that induction this year had suited parents and that children had settled well. Therefore, we will use the same induction schedule next year.

The Behaviour and Anti Bullying Policy

Mrs Farkas shared the **Behaviour and Anti-Bullying policy** and parents were invited to ask questions and make comments.

If a parent suspects their child is being bullied then they should speak to the child's teacher; concerns are escalated as appropriate. The policy is available for all to view on the school website at www.blossomfield.solihull.sch.uk

Welcome Meetings

Some parents find it difficult to get childcare for these evening meetings.

Parent welcome meetings at the beginning of the autumn term are an opportunity for parents to meet staff and hear about the curriculum and systems in each year group.

Parent Partnership

They are not part of staff contracts and they give up their own time to prepare for them and to attend. Staff value the opportunity to meet with parents without children being present. The timing and content of these meetings is not suitable for young children. We understand that it can be difficult to arrange childcare in the evenings, this is beyond our control. We also understand that not everybody can attend and so we make the information delivered by staff available on the website.

Daily Dash

Is the daily dash still taking place? The daily dash is now an established part of the daily routine at Blossomfield. Occasionally it may be re-scheduled or cancelled for Health and Safety reasons but both staff and children take part each day enthusiastically.

Parking

The issue of parking was raised again and **parents are becoming increasingly annoyed with a few persistent offenders who are being inconsiderate to the majority of other road users and pedestrians.** Parents have been taking photographs of cars that are blocking drives, parked on double yellow lines or on the pavement. We keep a log in the office of all reported incidents and have just started a traffic survey for SMBC. This information is shared with the Council's transport department and the Police regularly.

Blossomfield have been working with SMBC and 'Modeshift Stars' to encourage more sustainable ways of travelling to school. We have recently been asked to attend an awards ceremony with the Mayor of Solihull who has recognised the work that we have been doing with the children in promoting and supporting sustainable travel.

Lunchtime

Some children are hungry at the end of the school day and some parents feel that this is because they have not eaten enough at lunchtime. We emphasise to children that they need to eat their lunch to have enough energy for learning in the afternoon and lunchtime supervisors monitor what children eat. All children have a choice from the menu which is published on the website. Younger children point to what they would like if they are not sure. Lunchtime supervisors supervise the children when they are eating. Children have to ask before they scrape their plates and may only do so if lunchtime supervisors are happy that they have eaten enough. If lunchtime supervisors are concerned that a child is choosing something that they are then not keen to eat they talk to the child about their choice and ensure that they have something to eat. Lunchtime supervisors report all of their concerns with regard to children's eating habits to the class teacher who will let parents know if there is an issue. Most children will feel hungry at the end of a busy school day.

End of Day

Sometimes Children are let out quite late. Staff will be reminded that many parents have an onward journey to collect other children from Junior school and to let the children out as quickly as they can whilst bearing in mind that the children's safety is of paramount importance.

Start and End Times

Are there any plans to stagger the beginning and end of the day to fit in with Junior Schools? We feed into 2 Junior schools and each of those schools have intake from at least a further 2 Infant schools, which complicates the situation. We have no plans to change the timings of the school day at this time.

Water intake

Do children have access to water throughout the day? Children have access to water throughout the school day. However, children may be directed by teachers as to appropriate times to have a drink. This is because it is inappropriate for a child to get up for a drink during teaching time as their learning will be interrupted and they may miss a key concept.

Next Meeting

Wednesday 30th November 2016 @ 7pm