

Parent Forum Minutes



Meeting title:	Somerby Parent Forum
Date and time:	Tuesday 27th February 2023 at 3.00pm
Location:	Meeting at the school
Parents	Hollie Newcombe Shelley Morton
In attendance	Andrea Brown, Headteacher Anna Duval, MET Clerk

Welcome and Introductions

Mrs Brown welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained the rationale of the meetings. They are to provide feedback and suggest improvements, and to help promote positive and effective two-way communication between parents and the Trust. The improvement of children's learning experience is the Forum's clear and consistent goal.

Mrs Brown said at these meetings we will not be discussing items relating to specific pupils, specific parents, or individual staff: this should be discussed one to one with the relevant teacher or Headteacher as appropriate.

A MS Forms was sent to all parents in advance of the meeting to give feedback and raise questions to the parent forum. There were 4 responses and these were used to shape discussions.

Autumn Term Focus

Speech and Language Project NHS – Word Aware

Mrs Brown said they are working with Ab Kettleby and Grove schools on a speech and language project NHS project called Word Aware. Every classroom have words up in the classroom and children are encouraged to use the words in their writing during the week. It uses colourful semantic communication where the sentences are built up. It has communication friendly environments that are not too cluttered. Picture prompts are used for words. There is link to a video from the school website for parents to give further information.

Autumn 2024 New Starters.

There are 10 EYFS new starters as first choice. Admissions have agreed that the school can take all 10 which gives increasing intake numbers. Parents noted there are less due to start the following year.

Learning Logs

Children can access homework and select their choice at a time to suit them.

Leicestershire Music Services

Leicestershire Music Services deliver the music sessions at school. So far, they have done guitar and brass lessons and there will be a different instrument this year. They offer tuition to those that wish to continue lessons but they need a minimum of 5 children.

Trust support -estates continues

Mrs Brown said there is a wish list of what is required. The roof has a small leak in the hallway. The hallway requires decorating. There is a leaning wall behind the shed near Willow. The Willow area roof. The fencing around field where horse have been tied.

Feedback from Parents: What is Working Well?

- Everything is working well!
- I'm not sure how you can improve it!
- It's a fab little school!! All is great.
- My daughter has recently made use of the ELSA sessions which, I believe, have helped her a lot. It is a relief to know, as a parent, that there is extra support for your child when it is needed.

Feedback from Parents: Things to improve?

- I have no complaints from my children (apart from the school dinner menu).
- Any planned changes with reduced numbers of children in some years. i.e. losing teachers or aids

Mrs Brown said the school dinners have improved following the regular feedback from the school and have good portions of the meal with a salad bar and bread. Hot meals are provided in the winter and sandwiches are included on the menu in the summer.

Overall, the numbers are going up even though some years have a small cohort. The schools loses 4 year 6 children in the summer but will have 10 new starters. There are no plans to change the class groups or staffing and will remain with 3 classes of R/1, 2/3, and 4/5/6. The curriculum plan is in places that works with Ab Kettleby school who have the same year group arrangements.

FOSS Friends of Somerby School

Mrs Brown said she would like to book some events with FOSS.

Parents said a tuck shop has been discussed. Mrs Brown said she will ask the admin staff to contact FOSS.

Parents said that FOSS have £4000 in the bank and there have been discussions around getting an outdoor Pod.

Mrs Brown thanked FOSS for the funds they have raised for the school that has provided the library furniture, outside furniture and transport costs.

Mrs Brown will send a MS Forms to parents to ask what events they would like and to ask for offers of help.

The next Parent Forum will be in the summer term.

The meeting closed at 3.40pm