



Barley Lane Primary School

Parent Forum Minutes

15th November 2022 (6 – 6:40pm Zoom)

Email: parentforum@barleylane.redbridge.sch.uk



In attendance: Staff: Mr Henry (Headteacher)

Parents: approx. 36 parents logged on

Notes	Actions
<p>1. Welcome and Actions from the previous meeting Mr Henry thanked parents for coming. The aims and remit of the parent forum were explained.</p> <p>Actions from previous meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Diversity of books: the school continues to ensure that key texts are as diverse as possible, with a variety of authors and characters reflecting our school community. The parent curriculum diversity working party met last week and talked about our current focus on sustainability and outdoor learning. The school would welcome any suggestions sponsors - i.e. companies- that might be able to help us with funding for an outdoor classroom and to develop our outdoor spaces - Redbridge Book Awards: Suggestion that the school gets involved in the Redbridge Book Awards. We have signed up for this and will be receiving books in the spring term for voting at the end of March. The long list has been announced. - Books Home: The school was due to send core subject books home to parents prior to the Parent Consultations in October. This happened and Mr Henry thanked the many parents who fed back to the school. We have had requests for books to be sent home more regularly but for now, it will be termly. - Library Opening: The school was to consider opening the library to families after school. This has begun, with a weekly after-school opening slot for KS2 children and families. 	
<p>2. Contextual Safeguarding Mr Henry reiterated the importance of safeguarding, how the school works with the community and external agencies and asked parents to be vigilant and inform the school of specific issues. He thanked parents for alerting us to concerns about Barley Lane Recreation Ground in terms of rough sleepers and substance misuse and allegations of young people being involved. The school has alerted the Seven Kings Safer Neighbourhood Team and the Local Authority Education Safeguarding team who has passed the information to a number of teams within the local authority who are investigating.</p> <p>Mrs Ballantyne is the DSL, and parents were shown the list of Safeguarding Team members. Parents encouraged to speak to us if they have</p>	

<p>any concerns about their child's social emotional and mental health as our Pastoral Team can support with this.</p>	
<p>3. Reading A parent submitted a query about whether the school was looking for reading volunteers. We will be in touch in the coming weeks to specify exactly what is needed and how to apply Reading morning: a parent submitted a request for the school to consider a reading morning where parents come in to read to their child.</p>	<p>School to release information on volunteers</p>
<p>4. Educational Visits A parent submitted a request that school considers the Kenneth More Theatre pantomime this year. We have looked into prices and given the % of parents who don't pay the voluntary trip contributions, our school budget would not stretch to funding the shortfall for the pantomime as it is expensive. However we will explore other options for trips in spring and summer</p>	
<p>5. Redbridge Book Awards A parent asked for an updated on the Redbridge Book Awards. We have signed up for the Awards and will be voting as a school in March.</p>	<p>School to update parents on the school votes and shortlisting</p>
<p>Parent Engagement: - Fireworks: Mr Henry thanked all of those parents who volunteered for the event and parents for supporting it. Not all volunteers turned up on the weekend but we had a small group of dedicated people who braved the rain! Our events are dependent on volunteers. - Redbridge Institute: We are looking forward to Redbridge Institute adult education sessions taking place for our community at school and are planning the spring term events. - Nativity Events: A letter will be sent to parents with dates tomorrow, as well as performance times and dates for all classes throughout the year. - Coffee Morning: We continue to set dates on different days as requested by the Parent Forum last year</p>	<p>School to release Redbridge Institute session information once it's been finalised</p>
<p>6. AOB Some additional questions from parents:</p> <p>Reading: Could the school consider visits to external libraries, e.g. Keith Axon</p> <p>Vaping: Concerns about parents smoking and vaping at the gates. Mr Henry explained that the school will address this as and when they see it, and will send a reminder to parents in the newsletter</p> <p>Parking: Concerns raised about parent community parking illegally and not being mindful of other parents and residents. Mr Henry explained that although there have been fewer complaints this academic year, it's still an ongoing issue. SLT address it when on the gate and we request parking warden visits which occur every now and then. A number of letters have been written by Mr Henry to parents who have parked illegally and challenged our staff who have asked them to be mindful.</p> <p>Safeguarding: A parent raised the issue of rough sleeping in the doorway of St Paul's Church on Barley Lane and inappropriate comments</p>	

<p>being made to female parents and children by those in this area, as well as on Eastwood Road. Mr Henry meeting with Reverend Janet in the coming weeks and will raise the concern but urged parents to contact the police any time they see something of concern.</p> <p>Year 6 A parent asked if there had been an improvement in the Y6 behaviour after a letter had been sent to parents last half term. There has been an improvement, but there are still some issues being raised regarding a minority of students which is being addressed and monitored</p> <p>After-school clubs: A parent asked if the school could consider a debate club and an afterschool book club. Suggestion that the current Coding Club provider could be contacted as they appear to run debate clubs.</p>	
<p>7. Time and Date of Next Meeting: Monday 9th January 9:15 in the Junior Hall</p>	