

**Parent Voice**  
**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2016**  
**The Barn Cedar Studio**

**1. Welcome and introductions**

Mr McIntosh (Deputy Head Teacher) welcomed parents and, for those who had not attended a Parent Voice meeting before, outlined the purpose and procedure of the meeting.

**2. Minutes of the last meeting and action points**

- **School dinners**

- The questionnaire had been sent out to parents on the day of this meeting.

- **Fire alarms**

- The fire alarms are now being tested every week on Friday afternoons after school.

**3. AOB**

- **Pobble**

A question was asked about the new system of publishing children's work online – how would the work be selected? Mr McIntosh explained that it would normally be work of a good standard for the individual child that demonstrated a particular or a range of writing competencies. As each child's attainment in writing is different within and across year groups, the pieces of work would vary, of course, but the point of publishing the work would be to celebrate pupils' achievement and encourage and inspire them in their writing. The aim would be that all children in each class would have at least one piece of writing published during the year.

A point was raised that it is possible to see how many views a piece of writing has had and also the number of 'likes'; in one class when Pobble was being introduced to the children and a piece of writing was being shown that had had several less likes than views, this had been interpreted by children as not being well-liked. Mr McIntosh said that he would ask teachers to help their pupils understand that these two indicators were not necessarily linked.

- **Texts**

A parent pointed out that there is an irregularity to the texts she receives, and presumably others may be affected in the same way. The parent had received a text about World Book Day but not one for Pobble. This had been raised with the office staff before but no one seemed to know the answer for this. Mr McIntosh would make some enquiries and see if he could resolve the issue.

- **Website calendar**

A parent noted that the website calendar was not always up to date; it was not that there was incorrect information on there but it was not always populated with events. Mr McIntosh acknowledged that this would of course be beneficial and also noted that dates are given on weekly newsletters which would seem to be the most useful point of reference to parents. Mr McIntosh would make some enquiries about the possibility of the calendar being more reflective of school events.

- **Year 6 Isle of Wight trip**

A parent noted that the kit list for the Year 6 Isle of Wight trip this year on the website was the same as that for the previous year, but the parent knew that some of the activities had changed. Another parent noted that the final payment for the trip was due on the first Friday after the Easter holidays (15<sup>th</sup> April) and it may be beneficial to remind parents about this. Mr McIntosh would follow up on these matters. He also pointed out that there would be a FAQ-style meeting for parents regarding the trip on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> April. A parent noted that receiving the itinerary would be welcomed by parents.

- **Polling days**

A parent asked if Year 6 pupils would need a packed lunch on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May and the other year groups on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June. Mr McIntosh would make enquiries and confirm this on newsletters in the run up to each polling day.

- **Lunch menus**

New lunch menus for the Summer term were coming out today in the weekly mailing and had been posted on the website. Parents made the point that the menus were designed in such a way as to cause a lot of ink to be used when printing them at home, either in colour or in black and white. Mr McIntosh acknowledged that this point had been raised before and nothing had changed and he would talk to Ashlyns about this.

- **Fundraising**

A parent noted that it would be good to have an option on Parent Pay for donations to be made towards the Multi-Use Games Area for parents who did not necessarily want to contribute through the Friday House Sales for whatever reason. Mr McIntosh would find out about setting this up.

#### **4. Date and time of next meeting**

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> April at 8pm (tea/coffee from 7.45pm) in the Barn.