

**ST. EDMUND CAMPION
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
A VOLUNTARY ACADEMY**



**Parent Forum Minutes
21st September 2015**

Notes from Parent Forum meeting on Monday 21st September 2015

Present: Mrs Blake, Mrs Byrne, Mrs Waite, Mrs Carnell, Mr Dowding, Mrs Foody, Mrs Sharkey, Mr Silcock and Mrs Morley.

Apologies: Mrs Richards, Mrs Coulam and Mrs Coppinger.

Mrs Blake opened the meeting with a prayer. Notes from the previous meeting were shared and agreed.

Accelerated reading

Mrs Blake explained that Accelerated reading is not a scheme but is only a small part of children's reading that takes place in school. In addition the children will have a guided reading session with their teacher and will also read throughout the day – instructions, questions, research tasks etc.

Mrs Byrne explained that the children carry out an individual assessment in the ICT suite where they answer a variety of questions which will then calculate a reading band based on their reading age. The children will take ownership of choosing a book which matches their band and hopefully will instil a love of reading. When the children have finished reading their book they must complete an online comprehension quiz. When the children have achieved 100% in three comprehensions they can move higher up their allocated band. Children have the opportunity to change their books each day as the library is used each morning from 8:45 and from 11:45. It was agreed that Mrs Bartley will send out a letter to parents to explain the logistics of banding and changing books.

TA teaching in year 5

Mrs Blake explained that last week Mr Jukes was on a NQT course and Mrs McGowan was working in the class for part of the day. She further clarified that teachers will always plan the work for the TA to carry out and that they also know the children's needs better than a supply teacher. It was also mentioned that Miss Cololuca does cover some classes and although she is employed as a TA she does have an education degree.

New assessment systems

Mrs Blake explained that levels are no longer used to track pupil progress but instead there are level descriptors. All children will now use these and teachers will set targets from these which will be shared at Parents Evening in November alongside a booklet about the New Curriculum. Instead of sublevels C, Band A pupils will now be beginning, developing and secure within the descriptors. There was a general feeling that the new curriculum is more challenging and parents could see the difference in their younger children's work compared to siblings. Children in year 2 and year 6 will still complete SAT's but will not be given a level, rather they will have met / not met end of key stage expectations.

Mission statement and school prayer

Mrs Byrne shared the new Mission statement which has been a project over the last year working alongside pupils, parents, staff and the IEC. Copies of the new school prayer were distributed. Both of these are on display in each class and around school.

School Captains / House Captains / Liturgy team

Mrs Blake explained this new initiative and that all of the year 6 children wrote a letter explaining why they wanted to be a captain and what qualities they could bring to our school. School captains have been used in assemblies to introduce the school council and give out certificates in Achievement Assembly. House captains have prepared and lead a meeting for all the children and staff of each house. This leads to a feeling of togetherness and also a bit of fun rivalry. It was also mentioned they year 6 children were looking forward to their residential next week at The Briars. Children in year 5 also had to write a letter of application explaining why they wanted to be a member of the Liturgy team. Eight children were chosen at the end of last term and they attended a morning at the Cathedral alongside Liturgy teams from other schools. On 29th September, 4 children will represent the school with Mrs Blake and Mrs Byrne at the cathedral for the Bishop's mass.

School Council

Each class from year 2 – year 5 have nominated a school councillor and they were introduced to the school last week at a special assembly. Again children had to write a letter and read it out to their class and then each pupil had a vote. They met with Mrs Blake on 15th September and over the next few weeks they will be working on an Anti-bullying policy. Leading on from this discussion the question was raised regarding children bringing in mobile phones in to school and Mrs Blake explained that they were not authorised to do so. This led to a discussion about E safety and it was felt that a parents meeting would be valuable. It was noted that Miss Dawson will organise this.

AOB

SRE – This will take place in year 5 and 6. Mrs Byrne and Mrs Day are going on a course in November where they will receive documentation and guidelines from the diocese about a new programme aimed at Year 5 and 6. There will be a parents meeting where resources and content will be shared before staff work with the children.

New building – New plans were shared.

Governing body – Mrs Blake explained that by the end of this academic year the school would have a governing body instead of an IEC. Over the next few months would be a transition period.

Parent Forum vacancies – if the parent forum is to continue as a separate group to the IEC / governing body and a vacancy arose it was felt that this would have to be advertised to all parents and see how many people would be interested. The maximum number of the group would be 14.

Next meeting – Monday 23rd November at 7pm.