

PARENT FORUM

SPRING TERM ONE - 2020

Tuesday 7th January 2020

Pre-Meeting - Sets of plans for the outside area (Year 1 to Year 4) were shared along with current playtrail plans which are currently being built.

Item One - POW Passports - New use of passports shared: zip pocket folder, parent guide, coming home, termly headteacher review.

Parent/carer thoughts -

- The coming home idea is good, but what about the children whose parents find that difficult?
GSp response - this concern is noted but we must act on the majority. Provision will be made for children whose parents find this difficult.
 - What about the ones that get lost?
GSp response - this concern is noted but we must act on the majority. Provision will be made for passports that get lost.
 - New layer of obligation coming home.
GSp response - scheme is optional. We want this to be a pleasure, not a chore.
 - Not too onerous as they are things they do anyway.
GSp response - scheme is optional. The passports are intended to celebrate depth.
 - This will open it up to parents who don't know a lot about it.
GSp response - this is our hope.
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Item Two - Improvements to the school - Information about the cloakrooms: current situation, lockers, children's equipment, staff / governor working group.

Parent/carer thoughts -

- The difficulty is coats and bags just don't fit on the pegs.
- Will they just wack the doors in others faces.
- Could you use a box frame with no doors? Open lockers.
- Separating coats and bags makes sense.

- Having the coats near the door.
- Importance of keeping the parents in the classroom, not swapping entry point to classroom.
- Doors, fingers a concern on lockers.
- Coats stored under the eaves. They would still dry here.
- How about getting rid of bags altogether?
- Cloakrooms on wheels?
- Older children have closed lockers, younger children have open lockers.

GSp response - all of the above comments will be taken to and share with our Staff/Governor Working Group. Any parents who wish to be involved in the working group should let me know either face to face or via email (headteacher@princeofwales.dorset.sch.uk) before Friday 10th January 2020.

Item Three - Outdoor Provision (Y1 to Y4) and new playtrail - Fully inclusive nature of playtrail being currently built explained. Parents invited to look at and share plans and features that the staff and children had suggested: Water, the boat as a feature, areas for children to use as outdoor classroom spaces, the ford, bike shed (sustrans), surfacing. The natural theme was emphasised.

Parent/carer thoughts -

- Is the water fresh?
GSp response - Fresh Water borehole with use of a solar powered pump is one option.
- Another gate?
- GSp response - would be concerned with the safeguarding implications.
- Not another gate for protection of bikes.
- Although artificial grass is not favourable, but can see why for parents pick up.
- Storage for helmets in bike shed.
- Upkeep and quality of decking discussed.
- Access of boat with the decking, personal preferences of bright colours, prefer natural colourings.
- Parents preference for fresh water systems in the two designs.
- Planting and sensory and boat design with raised pathway and organic features of the design with the ford where all features that the parents liked.

- Amphitheatre seating was favoured. These are echoed in the mounds on the other design.
- Benefits of the space is the independence children can have here due to the supervision from the classrooms.

GSp response - all of the above comments will be taken to and share with our Staff/Governors. GSp will bring future developments back to Parent Forum.

Item Four - Swimming - Current swimming provision vs curriculum time discussed ahead of formal consultation coming later this term.

Parent/carer thoughts -

- Swimming is a really great benefit of the school, it is a communal activity.
 - One of the activities that this school does really well.
 - The middle school do not support it so it is important that we do.
 - New ASA qualifications for teachers mean all children can work towards the same awards as at clubs.
 - Helps children with specific needs swimming with their friends.
 - Giving people opt out may be a problem.
 - Swimming together is essential.
 - It depends on what is offered as an alternative to swimming.
 - There should be a requirement for non swimmers to reach a certain standard.
 - Exploring links with 1610 for swimming for children from local schools.
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Item Five - AOB/Questions:

When do you propose the (Y1-Y4) development will begin? How long will it take?

GSp response - as ever, we want this work done yesterday. However, Summer Term/Summer Holidays is most more likely. The project will take 10-14 weeks to complete.

Landfill Tax, Wessex water for funding?

GSp response - all options will be explored. We are currently working with two bid writers.

An email address to email all POW passport evidence to.

GSp response - we like this idea and will explore this option.

CLOSE