

## Parent Voice Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2021 9.30-10.15am via Zoom

### Attendees:

GJ (Head), TM (Assistant Head teacher), AH (Pastoral Leader), Parents – NiMi, RD, GE

### Apologies: None

The meeting was opened by AH. Meetings to be held on zoom due to current coronavirus restrictions. All children returned to school on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March.

- **1. Minutes from last meeting to be agreed:**

Minutes of the previous meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2021 were agreed (these had been emailed together with the zoom details and today's Agenda to parents prior to the meeting). All minutes of previous meetings are held on the school website along with all meetings dates until the end of the academic year.

- **2. Review Actions from previous meeting:**

Actions from 20.01.21:

- (A) MC/AH to look at family engagement suggestions and plan challenges – complete (Burns Night activities, Pancake day competition, World Book Day)
- (B) MC to ensure all staff release the work being set for the children after their lesson – complete. GJ said that feedback from teachers is that those children who engaged with Google Classroom (GC) were not behind in their learning.
- (C) Parents wanted an email from the Pastoral side/Head to tell parents that it was OK to prioritise both their mental health and wellbeing as well as their children's over the remote learning expectations – complete, email sent by GJ & AH.
- (D) MC/Head to ensure Marvellous Me is being used across the school by all staff – remains an ongoing action, TM is sending weekly emails to improve staff consistency, however, it remains patchy.
- (E) MC/Head to email all parents with where to locate feedback from teachers on their children learning – unclear if this was completed – will be reviewed for further learning on GC.

Actions from 18.11.20:

- (A) MC would look into this having next week's classroom learning added onto the end of the home learning each week – complete - should all now be being done with GC
- (B) MC to ensure Y3 curriculum needs to be updated on the website – GJ/TM to check website and update if necessary
- (C) Head to ensure that Meet the Teacher sessions are recorded and added to the website & Mr Puertas to arrange a new date and time for his – this should no longer be required with the use of GC across the school.
- (D) Head to ensure that when children are self-isolating, a weekly timetable will be sent home which will detail what is being taught in each lesson throughout the week – GC is now being used including if children or whole classes/ year groups need to self-isolate

- (E) Head to be clearer about what was Home Learning and what was Remote Learning and so parents were not confused by the terminology - complete
- (F) MC/Head to discuss with staff about the consistent use of both Twitter and MarvellousMe – as above (ongoing for MM but Twitter is now being used by all teachers across the school daily)
- (G) MC to find out if all teachers can use MarvellousMe on a Friday to tell parents how their child has got on in the spellings test and on maths –GJ will ensure this is done.
- (H) Can the school inform parents prior to the assessment week so they know their child is being assessed – as above for GJ
- (I) Can school also provide feedback following the assessment as to any concern/areas in which they could then support their child directly – as above for GJ. GJ said that these 3 weeks back in school is PSHE based. There will be testing for example children having the same reading test they sat back in November 2020 so we know if they have made progress or fallen behind (comparison testing). Y1 will have their phonics assessed. Maths is being tested daily with fluency questions so teachers can identify gap. The tests are to inform teachers what they need to cover in the Summer Term. **GJ will ensure the Newsletter explains what we are doing and why** and she is keen for parents to receive feedback (phone calls or emails to be discussed).

- **3. National Nurturing Schools Award**

AH & GJ expressed how proud they were of the whole school in achieving the above and confirmed that there will be a formal celebration (hopefully in the summer term – picnic on the field etc). GJ was exceptionally proud of the school and feels we are going from strength to strength.

- **4. Home/School Communication**

GJ expressed that this is always a difficult area with trying to balance giving too much information against not enough.

Parents enjoyed the Newsletter as a good way to know what the whole school was doing. Praise was given for all the information provided during lockdown and parents were confident in the way the school had dealt with everything. Parents have full trust in the school and the management of the coronavirus pandemic and also the whole school.

There were mixed feelings re communication around their own children. RD felt she has no comparison for her daughter and she did not have enough information from the teacher about her progress. Mum had been able to see the gaps/areas of concern first hand via GC.

GJ said that parent workshops with how things are taught in school have not taken place. Parents had seen the teaching first hand on GC which had been very useful.

Parents did not know what the expectations are for their children by the end of the year. **GJ/TM to add 'end points' onto the website for each year group** so parents can assess for themselves if their child is where they should be at the end of the year or if there are gaps. Parents asked for no school jargon to be used so that they understood the information with ease.

- **5. What works well, what could be improved**

GJ said there have been many positive from the pandemic which they will continue going forwards for example staggered starts means they playground is much calmer and the morning is far less stressful for parents/children/staff. Also the one way system works much better. Changes to lunchtimes have improved behaviour and they are much more pleasant than previously. GJ asked how parents felt about zoom calls/phone call etc for parents evening and other events. RD expressed how having this flexibility would work better for a number of parents. Parents would still like to attend school to see their children book but other things could be done via phone or zoom at more convenient times for a lot of parents. **All future events to be reconsidered re flexibility for parents and staff.**

GE raised that she has not been able to build a relationship with her child's Y3 teacher – she is not visible at the beginning or end of the day and she feels she cannot therefore approach her to discuss anything. This made the phone call on parents evening difficult. **GJ to speak to staff member.**

- **6. Feedback on Parents Evening being held remotely**

As above, Parents Evening and other events will now be looked at being held remotely or as a combination of inviting parents in and also holding zooms or phone calls. RD commented that 1 size does not fit all and with parents working etc the school need to be more flexible.

- **7. Calculations Policy**

**TM is going to email this to parents** who attended the meeting to read through and ensure they understand this. Parents had found the teaching of maths particularly difficult on GC and this is what is being simplified for staff and children. GJ is keen to simplify everything across the school.

- **8. AOB:**

None.

- **9. Current Actions:**

- (a) GJ will ensure the Newsletter explains what assessments are being carried out and why**
- (b) GJ/TM to add 'end points' onto the website for each year group**
- (c) All future events to be reconsidered re flexibility for parents and staff**
- (d) GJ to speak to staff member re being visible**
- (e) TM is going to email Calculation Policy to parents who attended this meeting**