

Tonwell St Mary's CE Primary School Parent Forum Minutes

20.11.18

Present:

Interim Headteacher – Tracy Keddie

Parents: Sophie Eldridge, Aimee Eldridge, Lydia Ashcroft, Andrew Sims, Matthew Clutterbuck, Lucy Simons, Samantha Smith, Sarah Pinnington, Catherine Burgess, Ruth Lewis, David Lee

	Item	Action
1.	<p>Road safety</p> <p>A parent asked whether anything had happened following the accident involving the Asda van in October. Mrs Keddie explained that the van was going slowly and therefore no action was to be taken by the police.</p> <p>A number of parents expressed their concern that cars were being parked on the pavements, blocking access.</p> <p>Parents also expressed their concern at the speed of vehicles travelling through the village, particularly buses.</p>	<p>TK to remind parents of parking away from the school and off the pavement.</p> <p>TK to contact bus company to make them aware.</p>
2.	<p>Raising the profile of the school and improving pupil numbers</p> <p>All parents expressed their support for the school, feeling that their children were making good progress and they had seen improvements in their child's confidence because of the small classes.</p> <p>Parents wanted to know how they could help raise the school profile. One parent felt that one of the main ways was to post messages on the Hertford and Ware Parents net.</p> <p>Parents also felt that the school events were a good way to raise the profile and they were usually well attended.</p>	<p>LS and other parents to post messages on parent net.</p>
3.	<p>Village hall and Highfields Nursery</p> <p>Mrs Keddie explained that an application from Highfields to establish a nursery in the village hall had been turned down. The establishment of a pre-school or nursery would help pupil numbers and Mrs Keddie and parents expressed disappointment at this decision.</p> <p>Mrs Keddie explained that the Governors were considering discussing this further with the community.</p>	<p>TK to contact Chair of Governors to encourage Governors to investigate further.</p>
4	<p>Specialist Teachers</p>	

	<p>Mrs Keddie explained that a specialist Art teacher had been appointed and teachers all children 1 hour per week.</p> <p>A parent asked whether there was any possibility of specialist music teachers being employed. Mrs Keddie said that music was taught in the school. Ms Lewis said that in the past children had been taught piano £10 a session but gradually children stopped and the cost then became too much.</p>	<p>Mrs Keddie to discuss music teachers with Mrs Bridgman and also contact parents to see how many children are interested. Contact local secondary school to establish if any specialist teachers available to teach in school.</p>
5	<p>Key Stage 2 staffing changes</p> <p>Mrs Keddie explained that Mrs Gotham had been replaced by 2 experienced teachers Mrs Tracey and Mrs Andrews. Mrs Tracey was working 2 days a week and Mrs Andrews 2 mornings.</p> <p>The children had been split into 2 groups across the key stage. Mrs Barnes was teaching mathematics to both groups and Mrs Andrews and Mrs Tracey were teaching English.</p> <p>In addition 1 afternoon a week the children were split into 2 groups, year 3/4, and Year 5/6 for science. This would ensure 5/6 are taught the higher level skills.</p>	