

## Parent Forum - September 2017

### **Actions from previous meeting:**

ACTION: Mrs Bridgman to gather feedback from children and parents about intensive swimming lessons and plan for 2017/18 – completed see notes below

- **School Development Plan Priorities for 2017-2018**

To improve the quality of teaching and learning by:

- Raising standards in maths for all children through development of a new planning system for teachers, use of CPA approach to teaching (concrete, pictorial, abstract), reasoning and fluency
- Raising standards in writing through a whole school approach to spelling and ensuring standards of writing are at least good across the curriculum
- Embedding a culture where all staff share good practice, receive clear guidance on how to improve and take time to reflect of their teaching

To improve leadership and management by:

- Developing the role of subject leaders to track progress, monitor impact and enrich the curriculum
- Embedding a cycle of monitoring, evaluation and review by the Governing Body to ensure they fully hold the school to account

To develop the school's Christian character by:

- Introducing and embedding the new Hertfordshire RE syllabus
- Further developing children's involvement in planning and leading worship
- Providing varied opportunities for pupils to develop a clearer understanding of diversity within the Anglican tradition across the world and with other faiths

- **New Homework Policy**

New homework policy seems to be going well. One parent asked whether the policy was shared with children. The expectations from the policy have been communicated to the children at an appropriate level. One parent commented that the 'help for parents' section is useful.

- **Swimming feedback from KS2 parents**

Feedback from children through school council is that they really enjoyed swimming lessons. They liked having longer sessions in the pool. Children would like to do it every week.

Mrs Bridgman noted that the longer lessons meant children had better quality instruction and that she was impressed by the teaching staff at Fanshawe pool.

The intensive lessons will be repeated in Summer 2018 for the final half term. There is some concern over the future of Fanshawe pool. Hartham or Hertingfordbury pools may be used if Fanshawe closes.

- **MFL teaching**

Mrs Bridgman explained the reason for changing to French rather than Spanish teaching for MFL due to the relocation of the Spanish teacher. Children are enjoying the French lessons.

One parent with a child in secondary school said that in Y7 their children was taught basics in French and Spanish.

- **AOB**

One parent asked about music provision. Each class is having a music lesson every week. Recorders are taught as a tuned instrument for 1 term per academic year with Mrs Barnes. Mrs Bridgman is meeting with Hertfordshire Music Service next week to investigate peripatetic music lessons. These would be paid for by parents. Mrs Bridgman has also put the school's name down to take part in a music festival at the Royal Albert Hall – this festival is very popular so hopefully we will get a space.

One parent asked about wraparound care. Mrs Bridgman confirmed that the price is £5 per child per day until 5pm.