BRIZE NORTON PRIMARY SCHOOL - PARENT COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parent Council Meeting held on Friday 1st February 2013

Present: Mark Smith, Kellie Hatcher, Victoria Doran, Sarah Birch, Claire Wright, Angela Forrester, Sarah Batts, Olivia Goodgame and Jackie Hampson

Apologies: Jo Webb

Update on matters arising from last meeting:

1. Scooters – the school is looking at the possibility of a scooter club in the summer term.

New Matters arising:

1. Storysacks

Most of the Year 2 children have now had the story sacks several times and have outgrown them. Could they be targeted at Foundation Stage and Year 1?

Mr Smith said he would discuss this with the Class 1 and 2 teams. The storysacks are a brilliant way for young children to engage in books and develop their comprehension of events, characters and learn factual information. They also promote family engagement around a story or game which does not happen in all families. It was noted though that many of the story sacks are at a reading level more in-line with Reception and Year 1.

2. Maths homework and workshops

would be most useful. Methods for multiplication and division in upper Key Stage 2 seem the most confusing for parents.

Mr Smith said that the points raised about homework would be fed back to teachers. Mr Smith would like to remind parents about the maths calculation booklet available on the school website and from the entrance foyer. This shows in a step by step way each of the methods used and the progression throughout the school. Miss Grant is currently reviewing calculation strategies across the school and will be looking at further ways of building in support for parents next term.

3. Year 3 Cloakroom

Some children's hooks inside coats have been torn because of the children pull coats off of pegs. Mr Smith acknowledges that there is limited cloakroom space for some classes and this is not easy to improve with limited space generally. Children often pull their own coat in a rush to get outside; it is not often the case that children are damaging other children's property. Mr Smith will remind the children not to pull coats from pegs and will ensure smaller groups access the cloakroom at one time when exiting for playtimes.

4. Headlice

Parents in one particular class were concerned at the frequency of headlice this term and how the school could ensure that parents treat their children.

Mr Smith explained the procedure for alerting parents to the fact that their child or another child has been discovered to have headlice. The school cannot legally tell a parent to keep a child at home because they have headlice and it is very difficult to ensure that all parents check their children's hair regularly and treat if needed. Mr Smith has had discussions with the School Nurse who will be providing further proactive information (leaflets) to parents on how to prevent or reduce the cases of headlice very soon.

5. Clubs

Class 2 parents had felt that the afterschool club offer for younger children was limited this term. *Mr Smith agreed that this was the case and apologised for the fact that there were not many younger clubs.* This had not been intentional and the balance for younger and older had not been checked as thoroughly as normally is the case.

6. Topics

The parents commented that the children had been enjoying the topics in school this term. The Pirate and Viking topics have really excited the children and they were all looking forward to their dressing up day.

Mr Smith wanted to thank the parents for the positive feedback.

Meeting closed at 9.45am. Next meeting <u>Thursday</u> 28th February 9am.