

BRIZE NORTON PRIMARY SCHOOL – PARENT COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parent Council Meeting held on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2011 9.00am

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Present: Mark Smith, Helen Biro, Sarah Webster, Jo Webb, Sara Coles and Lis Adams

Apologies: Olivia Goodgame

**Update on matters arising from last meeting:**

School Paypal – Mr Smith as looked at several companies who offer online payments but the annual subscriptions are high for the size of the school. With the reduced government funding next year, this facility may not be possible.

School dinner survey – this has now been completed and feedback given.

**New Matters arising:**

Support for new parents.

*As suggested at a previous meeting, identifying foundation parents with older children in school to offer advice to new parents has proved to be a good solution with a recent new parent. This is definitely something we should look at in the new school year.*

Road signs designed by children in Carterton.

*Around Carterton there are road signs that have been designed by children which is something we could look at doing. Jo Webb will contact our County Councillor to find out who we need to speak to about being involved in this project.*

Half term homework.

*A number of parents felt the homework set on Education City this half term was excessive. There is a bank of activities on Education City which children can dip in and out of in addition to other homework set. This was communicated in a letter but will be made clearer next time.*

Work being marked by other children.

*Peer and self assessment is part of the National Assessment for Learning and is about the pupils taking more ownership of their own development. There has been research to indicate that children respond better to feedback from each other. The work is always looked at by a teacher afterwards.*

Maths workshop.

*Feedback on the maths workshop was that it was expected to be a session to go through methods with teachers. The session was not intended to be this kind of format and was advertised as come in a work with your child. For the future it could be a split session; going through the methods first with the teacher and then work with the children to put it into practise.*

Lunch portions.

*Some of the older children are finding the lunch portion not large enough and are getting hungry mid afternoon. There is a standard portion size but Tammy always makes plenty and there is always the opportunity for seconds. It was suggested that perhaps a larger portion size could be introduced for the year 6 children but this would be more expensive per portion. We could look at offering the opportunity for an afternoon snack although there are many KS2 children who do not bring in fruit for morning snack. Fruity Friday has now been introduced and starts today.*

Easter School.

*The year 6 children have been invited to attend school in the mornings of the first week of the holidays which is a great opportunity for them and hopefully there will be a good number attending.*

Parent meetings.

*We are planning to hold parent meetings towards the end of the school year for the different year groups. This will be to explain what is expected in the next school year and to discuss topics, homework etc.*

**Meeting closed at 10.30am. Next meeting will be held on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011 at 9am in the staff room.**