

Parents Forum on Tuesday 31st February

2 sessions were arranged. A few parents attended the 9am session and none came to the evening session, even though that was identified as the most popular time.

Also in attendance were Mr Bless - Headteacher, Mr Way - Chair of Governors, Mrs Stacey - Governor, Mr Taylor - Deputy Headteacher, Miss Rees - Parent Support Advisor and Miss Paddon - Assistant Headteacher for inclusion.

Mr Bless started by reviewing the previous meeting and actions that had been taken as a result.

- Request for the school to continue funding Reading Eggs and Mathletics
- School uniform – parents and children valued this
- Homework – is it enough?
- What does the school do regarding provision for 'more able' pupils
- Parents cycling on the school grounds
- School crossing patrol
- What measures the school is taking to get to outstanding
- Changing the time of the Parent Forum to the evening

Q&A

Item 1 Changing schools to Prince of Wales

One parent stated she was very happy with their child's recent move to PoW. Her child felt being a part of the school; proud to wear her uniform and keen to arrive on time. Thanks to the support and drive of the staff she now loves reading, doing her homework and is a keen learner. She felt the school was ambitious for the children. She readily recommends our school to other parents.

Item 2 Friends of PoW

Are there scheduled meetings for parents to attend and is there a yearly schedule by the Friends of PoW?

There was a discussion on how other parents could participate and contribute to activities run by the Friends' association. It was proposed that the Friends arranged a meeting for any parents to attend and to explore opportunities for fundraising.

Item 3 What can parents do to help the school become outstanding?

a. Mr Bless explained that reduction in persistent absence and improving overall attendance and punctuality was key. An attendance team was dealing with this issue.

b. He also asked parents to enable their children to gain greater understanding of the world around them by taking them out to experience facilities locally or further afield. Engaging in conversation about these as well as watching documentaries and reading books together will benefit their development. We notice that many of our pupils struggle with reading comprehensions in a way that their peers in other parts of England don't.

c. Ensure children complete their homework and read every day.

d. The school is concerned that the % of pupils who cannot swim (a basic life skill) has increased significantly in the past year. This is a concern as it suggests perhaps a lack of understanding from parents in their role of their child's key educator.

e. The former point relates to this one: PoW arranges many opportunities for pupils to catch up learning in upper KS2 that are free to parents but costs the school. These include booster groups at 8:15am, weekends and holidays. Often just 50% of pupils turn up despite parents signing up for these. Pupils who attend, gain a lot and in other schools parents pay for these sessions. It was suggested that parents should at least pay a deposit before their child can attend which could be refunded when they attended all sessions.

f. Parents were reminded that there is a weekly open door session for each class to look at their child's work and discuss progress with the class teacher.

The parents who were able to attend are thanked for their valuable contributions in discussing issues that mattered to them and the school.