



Friday 22nd February 2019

Dear parents and friends,

Thank you to those of you who attended our joint parents' forum last week. Please find responses attached.

It would be great if more parents were able to come along to these meetings to share their views; the bigger sample of views we can gather, the better informed we are to respond to the issues you raise.

Thank you to Karen Raven for taking minutes, and to Cathy Bergs for chairing the meeting.

Kind Regards,

E. Harrison

Eleanor Harrison

The BAWB Parent Forum Tuesday 12 th February 2019, Bainbridge Primary School	
Issues / Points Raised	School's Response / Outcomes
Federation	
A parent asked how option 3a was being monitored	Conversations have been held with the parents of the affected children and feedback given. Option 3a review meetings are taking place next half term in all of our schools (please see the letter sent home with the newsletter this week).
It was agreed that that the transport arrangements for the WB KS1 pupils was not affecting their education and that the children seemed happy, which is the most important thing.	We are very pleased with how well the children have adapted to being taught at Bainbridge school and do appear to enjoy their learning time at the school.
A parent stated that the community gap needs to be bridged and a lot of effort would be required to make this happen. The West Burton defederation group want West Burton School to stay open. We need to attract more pupils to Reception and KS1. They asked how many new pupils would be needed to make this a viable option for West Burton.	We are sincerely committed to putting animosity behind us and working together in the best interests of our children and our schools. We have written to everyone who has corresponded with us following our decision; have set dates for a full review of option 3a; and are also suggesting a working party to look at pupil recruitment. We hope that parents and community members are willing and able to join us in our desire to move forwards positively and to harness our collective energy for a more positive pursuit.
It had been felt that communication regarding the defederation could in some situations have been handled with more care and attention.	
The Songbirds after school club was seen as a positive thing for sharing in the community as children from all three schools can, and do, attend.	Thank you to Julie Greenslade for providing this out of school club. It is very well attended and it is a great opportunity for our pupils to come together from all three communities
Parents had seen an improvement in PE, with bigger size cohorts, giving the children more competition.	This is great to hear and has also been recognised by our PE coach, Chris Bullock. Federation Fridays and the larger key stage one class at Bainbridge have contributed to this.

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Communication	
Karen Raven updated the Forum with regard to Parentmail (this had been raised at a previous Forum.)	Meetings had been arranged for all three schools to reinstate Parentmail now that we are in a position to do so. We will keep you informed, we hope to be up and running shortly.
Head Teacher Awards – it was suggested that notifications regarding these awards go out to parents at the same time as Pupil of the Week notifications. It was agreed that this was a good idea.	This has been put in place, the children will receive a slip informing them and their parents that they have been chosen for a Head Teacher Award – the reason why is not revealed until the assembly however!
One new parent hadn't been aware that he could attend our Celebration Assemblies weekly, not just if his child was receiving an award. It was suggested that there should be an Introduction Pack for parents of new starters to include this information.	This information is currently in our Early Years Prospectus. We will add it to the key information shared with families who join our schools further up the school.
The Class Newsletters had been a success. Could they be sent out regularly?	Excellent – thank you. We will start sending them half-termly instead of each term.

Issues / Points Raised	School's Response / Outcomes
Any Other Business	
Prior to the postponed Forum from January, a WB parent had raised the issue of repairs that were needed to a couple items in the playground, one of which we were already aware of.	All repairs had now been completed in the playground at West burton School. We are also looking to order some new balls for the WB playground.
The PTFA asked if a teacher or other member of staff could be present at future PTFA meetings. Helen Dalton will send dates of future meetings. The PTFA are looking for a new Chair.	We will email staff prior to PTFA meetings to ensure there is a member of staff at each meeting.
The PTFA would welcome ideas from teachers and the School Council on how to spend funds on the schools as they currently have a healthy bank balance. They had a successful evening of fund raising at the recent Curry Night. New fund raising ideas would also be welcome. An adults only Pig Racing evening and a puppeteer event for the children were mentioned as a possibility.	We are very grateful to the PTFA for their generous funding for trips and resources throughout the year. We will ask staff to forward any requests they have.
Y6 will be organising the Leaver's Fair – to be renamed as the Summer Fair to encourage larger attendance. It was thought that a lot of people assumed they couldn't attend. It is an event for the whole school.	The year 6 pupils and parents do a fantastic job of planning and organising the fair. Federation Fridays would provide the opportunity for all of our children to plan for the fair. Re-naming is a good idea, we will call it The BAWB Summer Fair.
Could we put an article in the Newsletter regarding PTFA events?	This could be a PTFA News area on the newsletter for weekly updates of meetings and forthcoming fundraisers. Would the PTFA be interested in maintaining this?
Was there anything that could be done to encourage attendance at PTFA events from the West Burton community.	Holding events at a Carperby venue would be ideal as this is mutual and equidistant for all communities.
The possibility of West Burton joining the Askrigg & Bainbridge PTFA was broached, but no conclusion reached.	This needs to be looked into further and the WB parents would welcome advice from the Askrigg and Bainbridge PTFA.

<p>Swimming – would it be possible to move the swimming lessons back to Catterick next academic year, as this is a nicer facility and not quite so far to travel? Could we confirm which year groups will be swimming next term?</p>	<p>The swimming provision has been of a high quality at Richmond Swimming Pool and staff have found the instructors to work well with our pupils. Catterick Leisure Centre is nearer. We will check availability and price for the new academic year. In the Summer Term years 3 and 4 and Reception from all three schools will be attending Richmond Pool for lessons.</p>
<p>It had been noticed that children were 5-6 minutes late coming out of school at Askrigg lately. Was there a particular reason for this? It has an impact on those parents who need to get their child to an after school activity etc.</p>	<p>There isn't a particular reason for this, we will remind staff to release children promptly at the end of the day.</p>
<p>The issue of cars driving too fast on the approach to Askrigg School, on the driveway was raised. The concern was that children cross the car park / driveway to get to school, especially if they are approaching across the diagonal path from Low Mill. Would it be possible to look at painting a pedestrian area, installing speed bumps?</p>	<p>We can certainly look into this and seek advice from our NYCC health and safety officer as to what has been used in other schools to address this problem.</p>
<p>An update on the fencing issue at Askrigg was requested. CB advised that this was still a work in progress. A working group has been set up to oversee this. We will be planting a hedge and installing a temporary fence until the hedge has grown tall enough. CB confirmed that the Askrigg grounds would still be accessible at weekends.</p>	<p>There is a working party in place who are meeting during the first week after half term. A decision has been reached as to the fencing and materials that will be used. Once the plan has been finalised it will be shared with parents and the wider community.</p>
<p>Parents requested the resumption of the Parent Pay reminder letters (debt).</p>	<p>Karen Raven will send these out as soon as possible.</p>
<p>A parent mentioned she was getting a duplication of emails.</p>	<p>The admin team will address this.</p>

- Next meeting will be Wednesday 15 May, 7pm at West Burton School.