

Parent Focus Meeting – 18th July 2016

Staff Attendees:

Mr Ord – Head of School

Mrs Easton – PA to Head of School

Parent Attendees:

Mrs Miller, Mrs Boyce, Mrs Baker, Mrs Cole, Mrs Hadley and Ms Gjikolaj.

Welcome by Mr Ord. All parents introduced themselves.

Topics Discussed – Medians of Communication between Parents/Carers and School

Communication at Preston Primary is positive, we have great links between the school and parents, ensuring that messages and information flow freely.

We currently send out Whole School Newsletters, Unit Specific Newsletters and day to day text and emails. The Nest are currently experimenting with Twitter.

Parents within the group stated that the communication is now more fluid and its definitely made home life easier. When families have more than one child attend Preston it would be easier for parents to know which unit the text message is referring to.

However, there are sometimes too many texts being sent on one day which leads to important information being missed. Texts can also be too last minute, especially when childcare needs to be arranged.

Some parents prefer hard copies coming home, as it means that they can keep a visual track of dates as opposed to having to check on the computer.

As parents are you ok with moving away from paper copies and having everything sent to you electronically?

Parents felt that there had to be consistency across the board, they had received a lot of paper for sports festivals and football matches and feel that as they had already completed consent forms it would be a better resource to email all the details out and then parents could order children's lunches online as necessary.

School Money

In the interest of making everyone's life smoother the School Office will be moving away from receiving cash for trips, residential and breakfast and after school club. Moving forward all processing of monies will be done via the School Money system that has been trialled this year.

Preston Primary Website

School websites are predominantly for answering simple school based questions and to signpost new families moving into the area.

Within the website the school calendar should be the most useful reliable tool. If the school website does its job properly it will make the school office a more efficient place.

Mr Ord advised the parents that the new Preston Primary Website will have a heavily populated calendar easing issues surrounding events to attend.

Parents taking part in the focus group were able to look at the website in the developmental stage and add any comments. They agreed that the new website looked slick and had good information.

Reports and Parents Evening

There was discussion regarding parents evening and the time of year reports come out. One parent thought it may be better if reports were produced closer to the February parents evening, if there were any concerns raised during this time there is the remainder of the academic year to get pupils back on track.

Mr Ord advised that Preston will be sticking with the current format, allowing the 1st conversation in October usually surrounds socialising and friendship groups whereas February pertains to academic attainment. Preston offers an open door policy, should any parent/carer have any issues outside of these set times they are most welcome to make an appointment with the class teacher via the school office.

Meeting ended at 3:00pm where Mr Ord thanked all for attending.