

Thorndown Primary School
Parent Forum Minutes
Thursday 24th September 2015

Present:

Heather Wood (Chair), Louise Lawson (Secretary), Rob Jagger (Governor) Vicci Godbold (Head teacher), Claire Gerrard (Deputy Head), Angela Boxall (Guest), Ruth Campbell (Guest), Sharon Outlaw, Johnny Nelmes, Rachael Mortimer, Clare Lorman-Hall, Cathy Sweet, Russell Burgess, Nicola Batty, Sam O'Donovan, Puwel Kurkiewicz, Caroline Skinner, Sam Poole, Amanda Mumford, Louise Keeley, Kevin Jepson, Clair Goodhead, Lizzie Reeve, Marcia Davies

Apologies: Georgina Pope, Kirsty Williford, Mrs Finch, Mrs Lee

1. Introductions and welcome by Heather Wood.

- The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.

2. Selection of Class Representatives

Class Name	Class Representative
Mrs Murphy - Badger	Mrs Mumford
Mrs Hamilton - Hedgehogs	Puwel Kurkiewicz
Mrs Askew - Squirrels	Marcia Davies
Mrs Browne - Owls	Mrs Pope
Mrs Parsons - Rabbits	Vacancy
Miss Buckby - Otters	Louise Lawson
Miss Bel - Nightingales	Vacancy
Miss Melander - Bats	Russell Burgess
Miss Marshall – Red Pandas	Johnny Nelmes
Mr Peel - Lions	Mrs Mumford
Mr Lemmon – Gorillas	Mrs Pope
Mrs Smith - Eagles	Cathy Sweet
Mrs Patrick - Pelicans	Clair Goodhead
Mr Sewell - Zebras	Vacancy
Mrs Dale - Tigers	Sharon Outlaw
Mr Sweeney - Hyenas	Marcia Davies
Miss Collins– Ring tailed Lemurs	Clare Lorman-Hall

- If a parent wishes to fill any of the vacancies - Mrs Parsons (Rabbits), Miss Bel (Nightingales), Mr Sewell (Zebras) - please email the parent forum parentforum@thorndown.cambs.sch.uk

3. Statutory changes in assessment

- Ms Godbold gave a presentation regarding the statutory changes on how children are assessed. Please see – **LINK**.
- In summary:
 - Levels are no longer used
 - Assessment is now based on age related expectations
 - Schools can choose their own format of assessment
 - Years 6 & 2 will still have SATS
 - A baseline test for foundation pupils has been introduced
 - Thorndown will use the following categories for each area of learning:
 - Working towards age related expectations
 - Working at age related expectations
 - Working at a greater depth
 - Each child is expected to make 3 points of progress in a year
- Ms Godbold asked parents what information/feedback they want at parent evenings.
 - *Parents would like:* a visual representation of how their child is progressing i.e. progress bar, an explanation of what they have done, what they are doing well and what they still need to do, practical tips on how parents can help their child progress, links to useful websites and the list of age related expectations for each subject.
- There was a discussion about whether children had to attend parent evenings. Ms Godbold explained this was encouraged but optional.
- Ms Godbold asked if parents would be interested in attending an open class to observe how children are taught. Parents were enthusiastic about this. Ms Godbold agreed to arrange open classes in literacy and math.

4. AOB

- Homework – parents requested more guidelines on the amount of time children should spend on homework projects. This was agreed.
- Some parents were concerned about children being knocked over by scooters on footpaths around the school.
- Football cards to be banned.
- Inconsiderate parking on California Road – residents should speak to PSO.

5. **Next meeting:** Wednesday 04th November at 7.30pm in the downstairs classroom next to year 5/6 stairs. The main agenda items will be review of parents evening, uniform and FOTs fundraising.

All parents are members of the parent forum and are welcome to attend the meetings. If you cannot attend but wish to raise an issue you can email parentforum@thorndown.cambs.sch.uk, post a note in the suggestion box in the lobby or raise it with your class representative.