

Parent Voice Newsletter

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Heronswood Primary School

 The Rivers
C.of E. Academy Trust
Live, Love, Learn



January 2017

If you are a parent/guardian of a child at Heronswood, it is important to **please read** the notes below.

This is a meeting of parents and school to help hear the parents' voice. It is a worthwhile connection with Heronswood where ideas are investigated and parents begin to understand school obligations. **Heronswood does want to hear the voice of our parents.**

Please join in by e-mailing to the above address or speaking to a year group representative with your opinions/suggestions. Any input is very welcome and remains anonymous. Please consider making your voice heard. You are not required to attend the meeting, this is the job of your representative.

Success Stories

- Class Photographs: Due to popular demand Heronswood will be investigating as to whether a date can be put in the diary for class photographs. Watch this space.
- New Fence/Seating Areas: The new fence has much improved the learning space around Reception and Early Years. Children are excited about the changes to the playground.
- YR Collection Point: Parents are in agreement that the YR MM collection point creates a smoother transition at collection time.

Meeting Dates

The next meeting will be held on 9th March at 8:45 am. Please share your ideas before this date.

Discussion Points

Calendar	<p>It was agreed that a class photo would be an alternative to the school calendar.</p> <p>Next Year: Christmas cards designed by children.</p> <p>School will look at producing a calendar every alternate year.</p>	<p>Action:</p> <p>Miss Whelan to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - confirm date of class photo. -investigate Christmas card idea.
Pantomime	<p>In order to make before Christmas a slightly less busy time, is it possible to go to a pantomime after Christmas?!</p>	<p>Action:</p> <p>Miss Whelan to investigate for future. Pantomime is booked for 2017.</p>
Cathedral Carol Concert	<p>Kidderminster Town hall for 2017? Please try to have tiered seating or smaller children in front of taller ones.</p>	
Speech and Language	<p>Miss Whelan introduced the new 'word aware' initiative to help boost vocabulary across the whole school. It was agreed that 2 workshops (one straight after school drop-off and one in the evening) would be the best way to inform parents of this whole school initiative. It was suggested that information also be made available at parents evening.</p>	<p>Please spare the time at Parents' Evening to find out more.</p>
Renovations	<p>It was agreed that the new fence is effective and it has improved the outdoor learning space for Reception. Miss Whelan informed the meeting that Forest School is to start soon and the garden work is starting this weekend.</p>	<p>Reps to ask parents what else is a priority for renovations outside</p>
Communication and Clubs	<p>Notification that your child has a place in an after school activity club is still not perfected. Also, not all parents find out what clubs are available. It was suggested that notifications also be put on Facebook. It was reported that the letters link on the school website needs to be kept up-to-date.</p>	<p>Action:</p> <p>Miss Whelan to update letter links.</p> <p>Reminder to all parents – if child receives a place a sticker will be put in diary.</p>
Collection point for Reception and Year 1	<p>It was suggested that parents/carers of Reception and Year 1 children be encouraged to stand back and allow others easier access to the top playground.</p>	<p>Miss Whelan to write a reminder on the newsletter</p>
Spellings	<p>It was requested that any incorrect spellings were clearly marked, with a pink dot, in the homework diary.</p>	<p>Miss Whelan reminded of KS2 children's responsibility for marking diary. Teachers to spot check.</p>

Parking outside school	Reports were made that some parents are parking illegally outside school and it was felt that these practises will lead to an accident. Suggestions were made including inviting a Community Officer to be present at the start and end of the school day <u>and</u> the children to produce a leaflet to be placed on the windscreen of offending vehicles.	Action: Miss Whelan to write a reminder on the school newsletter. Mrs Porteous to speak to local police team Reps to remind other parents about parking.
Dinnertime	On occasions, when parents have spoken to their child's teacher about an incident at playtime they have found that the teachers are unaware. It was suggested that perhaps a sticker system be introduced, however, it may be difficult to distinguish between repeated and one off incidents.	Action: Miss Whelan to remind children that they can inform the class teacher if they are unhappy about their playtime.
Uniform	Could v-neck jumpers be offered as part of the uniform?	Action: Miss Whelan to investigate.
Disco	A few parents were unhappy regarding picking up KS1 children and walking them round to the front for admission to the disco.	Miss Whelan confirmed that this is necessary for safeguarding all pupils. That numbers had not dwindled this year but instead increased. Action: Reps to report back to parents that safeguarding and safety of children has to be the top priority.

Agenda for Next Meeting

Please speak to your Parent Voice Representative to add an item to the agenda.