

## **Parent Rep Meeting & Ms Steele – Autumn (1) 2021**

### **1. Supervision of lunches – how much children are eating**

All children in the dining hall are supervised and staff monitor what is being eaten and how much. For reception children in addition to the lunchtime hall supervisors there is always a minimum of 2 reception staff in the hall with them. Children are always encouraged to try new things and if the member of staff supervising the clearing of plates feels a child has not eaten enough they are sent back to eat some more.

Children in years 3 – 6 who take pack lunch currently (still) eat outside. The supervision of how much these children eat is not always possible as there are more children located over a larger area. Ms Steele will again talk to the older children and remind them they should be eating their lunches before going off to play.

The school will also inform parents if they feel there is an issue with a child not eating.

### **2. Menu – not particularly child friendly**

It has been commented that although there is a lot of variety on the school lunch menu it is not necessarily things that children will like/eat. The school are always monitoring the menu and have spoken with some of the children about the choices. Ms Steele is aware that there are one or two choices that are less popular and has therefore met with the caterer about replacing some items.

### **3. Fast Food**

There appears to be a lot of fast food choices on the menu, particularly on the census day. Firstly the food may be presented as 'fast food' but it's anything but. It is all healthy and baked, nothing is fried. The hotdog option is made from chicken. As the school receives money based on the number of hot meals served on census day, serving food that children are more familiar with is the best way to encourage as many children to take a hot lunch that day.

### **4. Sending books/folders home**

Reception parents in particular wanted to know if they would be giving the opportunity to see their child's folder before parents evening as some children aren't very communicative about what they have been doing.

Unfortunately this is not possible at this time. In addition the Early Years curriculum has changed and staff are no longer required to write as many labels.

### **5. Reading books for Reception**

It is hoped that reception children will begin to take a reading book home after the half term. The children have only been in school a few weeks and it has taken slightly longer to get the children settled. Mrs Atkins is planning on holding a reception parents meeting in the near future.

### **6. Booster Groups for KS1**

There are no plans currently to have booster groups for KS1 classes as children find it overwhelming. Class teachers will review in the spring term once the children are settled.

### **7. School trips**

The school will start to look and consider school trips after half term. There are additional factors to consider than in previous years, such as COVID restrictions, location of the trip, transport and costs. Since COVID and more recently the fuel crisis a number of coach firms have either increased their costs or gone out of business. E.G. The current coach hire cost is (around) £800. Going forward there will also be additional costs added if travelling into London due to the expansion of Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ).

## 8. Swimming lessons

Purley pool is closed and so this is not an option. However, the school are in talks with Warlingham and are hoping this may be an option going forward after Christmas. If this is a possibility it is hoped that some of KS2 classes will get 6 weeks of swimming.

## 9. Christmas play/celebrations

The school have put some dates in the diary for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas productions. There will only be one date per class and it is hoped that parents will be invited, although numbers will be limited. There are no production plans for the other years.

The school are hoping to have their traditional Carol Service at All Saints for the children but unfortunately like last year due to COVID parents will not be invited. The service is still in its planning stages so Ms Steele is unsure if Year 6 will be leading the service but if they do the school will look to record the service to share with the Year 6 parents and possibly the wider school community.

## 10. Parents' Evening

At this current time there are no plans to resume whole school face-to-face parent's evenings. In the current climate it is unmanageable to have so many people in the school hall at the moment. The school have a duty of care to ensure everyone is safe and to limit the spread of COVID. It was felt, at this time that Reception and Year 6 parents would benefit from having a face-to-face meeting.

As with reception, it is hoped that Year 1 staff will look to hold a parents' meeting after half term.

## 11. Weekly learning summary

Some parents have asked if it would be possible to have a mini summary of what the children have been learning during that week. Staff do not have the time to do a weekly summary. There is lots of information including half-term on a page for year group on school website under CURRICULUM.



It was also felt by some KS1 parents that having a weekly summary would be useful especially if children are having to isolate and if Google classroom could leverage the summary. Unfortunately a lot of the work and learning in reception and year 1 is practical based so it would be very difficult. For the older years as the work is more structured class work is able to be upload on to Google classroom for children to complete. Parents of younger children who are off or having to isolate are welcome to contact/email the class teacher to discuss missed learning.

## 12. School uniform – Hewitt

The school are aware that school uniform supplies have been an issue. They have contact Hewitt and are currently waiting a call back. Unfortunately this is not unique to Gresham.

A second-hand uniform sale will be planned for after half term. If you have any uniform that your child/children have outgrown and would like to donate please hand it into school.

**13. Football Team**

Some year 6 parents felt that all boys in the class should be giving the opportunity to play for the school team rather than having a mixed team of the best of Year 5 and 6. Ms Steele pointed out that there were only 8 spaces on the school team. If a child is not picked for the school team they are still able to participate in another after school football activity. Also those who are not picked for the team are giving other opportunities to represent the school at different events, not solely in sports, throughout the year.

Being a small school allows children more opportunity to be pick for events than if they were in a larger school.

**14. One-way system**

There has been positive feedback of the one-way system. There are currently no plans to change this.

**15. Next Year's term dates**

The school are still waiting for Croydon Council to publish the dates. As soon as the information is available it will be communicated to parents.

**16. Rainbow maths**

A direct question from Year 2 that children do not know what marks they got. The children are given their rainbow maths back to look over and see where they went wrong. There was only one week that this did not happen.

**17. Homework**

A direct request from Year 3 parents please could they have a little extra time to complete the work. Currently the homework is set on Friday and needs to be handed in by 5pm the following Wednesday. Ms Steele will speak with the class teacher.

Parents had really positive feedback on the work set and the marking.

**18. Timetable**

There are lots of different things happening on different days which the younger children either forget or find confusing. Ms Steele pointed out that there is a timetable in each class and the teacher does remind them what day is theirs for playing on the outside equipment etc.