

Parent Rep Meeting & Ms Steele – Summer (2) 2022

1. School trips

The school are aiming to reintroducing school trips for classes next year, however they will be dependent on the coach hire/availability. Unfortunately, the coach company the school used pre-Covid is no longer trading and the cost of hire has increased significantly.

The aim is for all classes to have 2 offsite trips over the academic year.

2. Scooters – can they be left at school

Unfortunately, there is no space for scooter parking at present. The area where scooters were previously left is now a hand washing station and with the current building working being undertaken at the front of the school there is unlikely to be available space anytime soon. It is anticipated that access to the school will be impacted and that a temporary loss to one of the school gates is likely during the building work.

3. Sports day

Ms Steele was unaware that Tug-of-war has been removed for the list of sports day activities, which was expressed by some parents. She will speak with the school's sports coordinator and reconsider reintroducing the event.

There was also a request to mix up the events and possibly introduce some other activities such as Egg and Spoon race, obstacle course, sack race and possible a longer running event for older children. The school field is unable to accommodate a longer running track without impacting on the remaining available space. It was also felt that an activity such as a sack race may result in an increase in accidents (fall, trips and bumps). The events chosen are based upon skills the children are taught as part of the PE curriculum.

4. October half term/inset days

A request to have Gresham's October half term inset days align closer with Riddlesdown holidays was raised i.e. This coming October Gresham's inset days are two days before half term, whilst Riddlesdown has half term off plus the week after.

Inset days are used for teacher training, planning and/or other duties and are dependent on when courses and trainers are available. In addition, Gresham is part of a network of linked schools who often arrange joint training sessions.

5. Breakfast choices

All children who attend breakfast club are offered a choice of fruit and toast or cereal along with water and milk. For those children who arrive late/or after the breakfast things have been cleared away, they are offered fruit and yoghurt, this is so Breakfast club staff can ensure all food, equipment and utensils are cleaned and storage away before children are taken down to the playground.

Due to the storage and short shelf life of yoghurt, it is not possible for all children to have the option of yoghurt for breakfast.

6. Parent survey

There were many positive responses along with some negative comments. It is difficult to ascertain if the negative feedback is a singular item or part of a bigger issue however the issues have not been raised through these meetings.

As a school it is always very difficult trying to strike the right balance regarding homework. Some families wish for more homework while other do not want any homework set at all. Whilst the school need to decide how best to take this forward it was asked if staff can advise parents of their expectation

Meeting Date: 15th July 2022

when it comes to homework during meet the teacher meetings and/or at the beginning of the new school year.

7. AOB

SEN Communication – It was requested the communication process regarding SEN be reviewed and that the letter sent to parents informing them that their child has/will be added to the SEN register be rewritten as it is unclear. Ms Steele agreed that the process has been fragmented due to staffing issues but that the process has just recently been reviewed and the communication process and been updated.

New Class Reps and future meeting – If not done so already please can the outgoing class reps let Illana (class rep co-ordinator) know who your class reps for will be next year. Once we have a list of all the reps we will look to arrange all next year's meetings.