

## Minutes from parents forum meeting

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2019 9.45 am

Present – Mrs Chambers, Mrs Passey, Miss Schulze, Mrs Wilkinson, Mrs Griffin , Miss Harris

### 1 Curriculum

AC outlined that the school is over the 3 year mark for an Ofsted inspection as the last inspection was June 2016 and the school is likely to be re-inspected around June 2020.

The new Ofsted framework Sept 2019 focuses on the intent, implementation and impact of the curriculum. AC spoke about the work staff are doing collectively around the intent document which details the head, heart and hand learning please see below.

#### **Intent:**

The breadth of our curriculum is designed around our school mission which ensures that the Gospel Values permeate everything.

**“We grow and learn as a family following in the footsteps of Jesus.”**

Within our mission we have developed three design principles that shape our curriculum and bring about the aims and values of our school.

**1) Head - Knowledge and skills that we impart to the children through our bespoke curriculum.**

**2) Heart - Character building through characteristics of effective learning, route to resilience, learning muscles and school values developing a real sense of identity.**

**3) Hand - Application of knowledge and skills through problem solving, critical thinking and creative learning .**

#### **Implementation:**

**A coherently planned academic curriculum:**

Underpinned by our school and Gospel values (including British values), design principles, learning habits, our academic curriculum uses either the EYFS statutory framework or the National Curriculum as the basis for content and expectations. We have structured this so that each year group has:

- a) A clear list of year group objectives for all areas of learning which must be covered.
- b) Knowledge organisers for subject drivers with a clear set of vocabulary to extend the knowledge of our children.
- c) A clear progression of skills and knowledge enabling curriculum coherence across the school.

The curriculum is successfully implemented to ensure pupils' progression in knowledge and the development of transferable knowledge for each subject in order to shape pupils as, for example, historians, geographers etc.

### **Impact**

The impact of our curriculum is that each child grows and learns through the Head, Heart and Hand curriculum so that they reach their full potential; spiritually, academically and personally.

This information will be displayed on the website shortly once staff have rechecked all details at the staff meeting Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November.

Collaborative working was also discussed and AC explained that strong relationships existed between Oakham C of E and St Mary and St John. Staff are working closely together and expertise shared as well as joint training sessions across the schools.

One parent asked about the teaching of science as their children had asked why Mrs McKay was not teaching all the science this academic year. AC explained that with an impending Ofsted inspection and need to have deep subject knowledge across all subject areas that teachers wanted to take ownership of the science teaching again. Therefore, Mrs McKay will teach science for 3 terms and class teachers the remaining 3 terms.

## **2 School lunches**

Portion sizes of school lunches were discussed. Prior to this as requested a discussion has taken place between the school and Aspens the catering company. It was agreed at the recent meeting that children would be offered a whole jacket potato and an increase in the number of fish fingers etc. Children are encouraged to go back for more bread, salad etc and it was decided that individual children's needs needed to be taken into consideration as all children had different needs in connection with portion sizes. Baguettes as an option for KS2 children was also discussed which resulted in a desire to explore this further.

**Action :** Since this discussion AC has chatted to the school cook and as requested individual children's needs will be catered for as much as possible in connection with portion sizes.

## **3 World Book Day**

One parent has requested that dressing up for world book day could be altered this year to avoid some parents feeling pressurised in connection with prizes etc given for individual costumes.

Although this date is currently in the school diary the format of the day has not been discussed yet and AC has agreed that this request is taken into consideration. One parent talked about filling a jam jar with items to do with their favourite book and bringing this and the book to school.

## **4 Parent Mail**

One parent who was not able to make the meeting had asked for parent mail to be discussed in relation to only sending mail relating to specific year grps as sometimes this is not the case.

Mrs Valiente answered this by stating that admin staff try to do this but unfortunately there may be an occasion where this does not happen.

## **5 EYFS playground**

One parent who was not able to make the meeting also enquired about the possibility of EYFS children being in their own playground at lunch time.

Conveniently a meeting had already been arranged with lunchtime supervisors to explore this possibility. It has been agreed that on specific days this will be an option but will not be able to be offered 5 days a week because of staffing when the astro needs supervision as well as clubs being offered to all children.

**Possible areas to be discussed at the next meeting :**

Parents evening formats and review of current school uniform.