COLLIS PRIMARY SCHOOL
PARENT FOCUS GROUP

Thursday 23 February 2023, 2.00 pm, Staff Room

AGENDA

PARENT FOCUS GROUP MEMBERS

School

Kevin Hogston	Head Teacher & Chairman
Paul Dowsett	Manager CATS
Jayne King	Minutes

Parent Members

	Children
Annabelle McCann	5
Matthew Davis	4, 2
Michelle Pinnell	4, 2
Karen Cook	4, 1
Julia Parker	3, N
Kimberley Garretty	2
Robert Jackson	2, R
Fiona Joseph	1, R
Karen Pollington	R
Katharine Phillips	R
Chirsty MacKenzie	N
Tulika Joshi	N

Governor Representative	Donna Littman
CSA Representatives	Jenny Day Nicola Hanley

Apologies

Annabelle McCann, Kimberley Garretty, Tulika Joshi, Jenny Day, Nicola Hanley, Donna Littman, Robert Joseph

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Lindsay Pickton, Spelling and Maths Workshops - we have received very good feedback from parents about the workshops hosted by Lindsay Pickton. Audio recordings of the sessions can be found on our website: https://www.collis.richmond.sch.uk/reading-2/

School meals - Pabulum will provide photographs for the website.

Head Teacher of Teddington School - Paul Grills gave a very informative presentation to parents that was well attended.

New Parent Drop-In Sessions
Our first drop-in session in January was very successful, enjoyed by both parents and children. The next session in the Summer Term (19/5/23) will include our Nursery children.
Feedback from working parents has been listened to – the date of the next drop-in session has been communicated well in advance.

Mixing Classes
KH confirmed that if mixing a year group becomes necessary, parents will be informed by the end of the Spring/start of the Summer Term. Mixing may be necessary if a year group becomes unbalanced and cannot be remedied in any other way. It is a difficult process and while the aim is to achieve 3 x balanced classes, of numbers, gender, ability, special needs, we give great focus to the friendship groups within the classes. The children will be given the chance to nominate 3 x friends they would like to be grouped with and we will make sure that they join a class with at least one of those friends. Once the new classes are formed, the children will have some lessons together before the end of term, including sports & games lessons, and lessons with their new teacher. If mixing becomes necessary, parents will be given plenty of notice and we will explain the process involved.

CATS/Clubs

Paul Dowsett, Manager CATS, joined the meeting to give parents more information about the provision at CATS especially for the younger children.

There are 272 children registered at CATS. A maximum of 126 children attend on any given afternoon, it is most popular with children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 5. The younger children have dedicated activities such as arts and crafts in the cabins. Next door is the astro with lots of outdoor games that is just for their use and when the weather improves they will have access to the field.

Other activities include football, table tennis, snooker, reading, cards, board games, homework and sessions in the ICT suite. The activities vary each day and are listed on a board allowing the children to choose what they would like to do when they arrive. Every 15 minutes they have the opportunity to change to a different activity. Use of the ICT suite is restricted to a maximum of 30 minutes.

CATS offers ad hoc sessions, a child does not have to be registered. 24 hours' notice is preferred, but last minute requests are accepted if there is a space.

Morning session	£8.00
Afternoon session	£17.50
Ad hoc session AM	£9.00
PM	£20.00

CATS is now so popular it has largely taken over the school to accommodate all its different activities, the consequence of which does restrict the number of other clubs that we are able to offer. Many children attend because they want to, not because their parents need childcare, and of course, the school benefits as income from CATS contributes significantly to our budget.

Uniform

Time limited discussion about uniform and it will be the first agenda item at the next meeting. Parents asked if second hand uniform sales could be organised on a regular basis. KH will speak to the CSA (actioned).

AOB

Industrial Action

KH explained that industrial action is next planned for 2 March. This clashes with World Book Day, that will be moved. Further strikes are planned for 15 & 16 March. Parents will be informed well in advance (one week). Staff do not legally have to let the school know if they are taking strike action, however the Collis staff have agreed to give one week's notice. KH reminded parents that the school cannot cover a class if the teacher takes industrial action.

Sun shade in the Summer

Parents asked what the school could do to provide more shade if we have another very hot summer.

- we have a newly constructed sun shelter for the infant children
- gazebos are put up on the field
- if the temperature is too high, the children stay in class

More notice for school events

Parents requested: 4 x weeks' notice, if possible
Events to be scheduled on Friday am
A start and end time to be given

Agenda Items for the next Meeting

1. Uniform
2. Mixing Classes
3. Communications

Meeting Dates 2022/23
Thursday, 20 April, 2.00, Thursday, 8 June, 2.00