COLLIS PRIMARY SCHOOL
PARENT FOCUS GROUP
18 January 2019

MINUTES

PARENT FOCUS GROUP MEMBERS

School

Kevin Hogston	Headteacher & Chairman
Sophie Macartney	Assistant Headteacher

Parent Members

	Year Grp	Children
Sarah Veichmanis	Nursery	3, 1, Nurs
David Tyas	Nursery	3, Nurs
Gaya Nolan	Reception	Rec
Jared Griffiths	Reception	Rec
Lee Addis	Reception	Rec
Dmitry Rudenko	Year 1	1
Graham Ball	Year 1	1
Erin Bibby	Year 1	1
Claire Price	Year 2	4, 2
Kate Perham	Year 3	6, 3
Gili Orbach	Year 3	6, 3
Jo Humphreys	Year 4	6, 4
Gavin Clarke	Year 4	4
Jo Gerloch	Year 5	5, 2
Sarah Robinson	Year 6	6
Lorraine King	Year 6	6
Natalie O'Rourke	SEN	3, 1

Governors
Julia Combe

Apologies
Jo Humphreys, Graham Ball, Denece Hart, Julia Combe

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

KH talked through the Minutes.

Teaching in Sets The Minutes include links to further research into teaching in mixed ability classes or sets. The group thought more explanation is required. KH will write to parents.

Playground The mound is repaired and open again. A new pump has been purchased to keep the playgrounds free of puddles.

Matters Arising (AOB)

School Lunches A concern was raised about children being encouraged to eat all of their lunch and asking permission before starting pudding. KH explained that some children eat very little and require encouragement to eat any of their meal. He emphasised that children are not made to eat everything before they leave. KH will speak to staff to make sure a good balance is struck.

A few general concerns were raised about school lunches. KH reported that Caterlink, our meals provider, has appointed a new head chef who is now in post. KH will monitor how things progress going forward.

WHAT'S WORKING WELL

Horses from Park Lane Stables visit us each week. Twelve children take riding lessons and Natalie O'Rourke was very pleased to report that all the children have passed their recent assessment and will be awarded certificates in assembly where she will explain more about the riding programme to the children. Staff select the children who they feel will benefit most from the lessons.

Christmas Productions. All the different Christmas shows and activities were enjoyed by the children and parents.

PHOTOGRAPHING AND FILMING PERFORMANCES

The Christmas shows highlighted two problems about which KH asked for the group's input.

Firstly, parents standing up and recording the shows on their phones, paying no regard to other members of the audience and distracting the children on stage. Some shows are professionally recorded with CDs available for purchase, but this is not feasible for all productions such as class and birthday assemblies. It was suggested that parents who want to record and take photographs should stand to the side or in a designated area. However, while the school recognises that memories of the shows are important, parents are reminded that we do have children in school who cannot be photographed at all. Equally, no recordings that include images of children other than their own should be shared on social media by parents. Reminders are made at the start of shows/assemblies.

Secondly, younger siblings becoming upset/noisy during performances is distracting for the children and make it difficult for parents to hear the performance. It was agreed that parents should be told to leave the hall and return when the child has settled, though it would be better all round if parents make other arrangements for younger siblings.

PARKING

Despite our very best efforts to encourage safe parking, we see daily examples of very dangerous and thoughtless behaviour from parents. We have been passing photographic evidence of dangerous and illegal parking to the local police, but as they have been

overwhelmed by the number of complaints, parents are now advised to contact The Richmond Parking Hotline on 020 8744 0462 or email at parking@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk.

KH asked for the group's comments. Many ideas were discussed

We will speak to the Council about the possibility of further parking restrictions, traffic calming measures, and installing CCTV to monitor the area (or at the very least to install a camera as a deterrent). The possibility of coning off the areas directly outside school was discussed but it is important to highlight that schools have no legal power to control or patrol the public highways.

We will liaise with the Parking Office. As it is now collecting evidence of dangerous parking, more parking attendants should be allocated to patrol our area. We will continue to encourage walking to school.

In class, teachers are making their children aware of the possible consequences of dangerous parking, the children then pass these messages to their parents. This has proved very successful at other schools, where perpetrators pay a fine to the school or elect to attend a 'training course' on safe parking delivered by the children.

KH will write to parents, again.

HOLIDAY DURING TERM TIME

The continuing problem of families taking holiday during term-time was discussed.
KH to write to parents to explain how this impacts the school and the children and why no holiday requests during term time can be authorised.

TOPICS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Meeting times will be extended to enable longer discussion and to cover more agenda items. Meetings will start at 1.45pm

1. Secondary School Transfer
2. School uniform from School Trends
3. Cloakroom management
4. Year 6 curriculum after SATs
5. CATS/Clubs
6. Sports Day
7. Links with outside community

MEETING DATES 2018/19

Friday 8th March 2019 – 1.45pm
Friday 17th May 2019 – 1.45pm
Friday 21st June 2019 – 1.45pm