



NEWBOTTLE & CHARLTON CEVA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Every person matters, every moment counts "I can do all this through him who gives me strength"

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Headteacher: Mr Peter Smith

Chair Of Governors: Lady Hayter

Parent Forum Minutes 6.10.22

Present: Mrs Palmer-LP (Oak and Birch), Mrs Warren-Wood-GWW (Ash and Elm), Mrs Peel-Yates LPY(Birch), Mrs Kate Hume KH (Ash) Mr Smith- PS (Headteacher)

Apologies- Mrs Kelly (Birch), Mrs Price (Elm and Ash)

Points for discussion

1. Curriculum Information

PS shared ideas regarding informing parents about the curriculum and the approaches school does. Members of the forum agreed was a good idea. PS discussed ideas such as Maths, Reading, Mental health and wellbeing. He commented that he was going to ask parents on themes for this year's sessions during parents evening. Last year he had done quick information videos with little uptake but realised after a recent information evening for parents, how many would like face-to-face meetings. LPY commented that a SRE meeting would be beneficial, even though parents get the information; having an opportunity to ask questions to the teacher and find out how they can help extra conversations at home would be helpful.

GWW commented that lots of parents had enjoyed PATH time last week and how valuable it was to see the children talking about their classroom and work. PS said he was glad that school could offer this again and that parents who don't normally attend celebration assembly could attend.

Other enquiries included- exhibitions to show work and class assemblies- PS said the exhibitions sharing work often linked to a whole school topic and some topics don't work for that including this year's topic on values. Class assemblies will be back this year- Stay tuned.

2. Communication

PS asked about communication and if the length of the newsletters worked- did people want to read what school has been up to? Members agreed it was a good thing and the format works much better than PDFs. PS talked about the ways in which we communicate – Email, letters, texts, Seesaw. The Eduspot app was discussed (app including text2parents and school money). It was discussed that some information can be shared this way instead. PS would explain about it in the newsletter and use it for short communications and notices. It was commented that the uptake on classlist for the PTFA was low and that we would stop this app and use Eduspot instead via school. Due to moving between parent and child accounts on Seesaw it was suggested that it wasn't the best way to communicate all the time. School to monitor this year and see what is working.

GWW explained that some parents were worried about not being able to contact teachers directly via email after a change in policy earlier on in the year. PS explained that often teachers needed to access emails in the



evening and when a parent email came- whether it was a query, concern, complaint or just information it often meant teachers were unable to switch off trying to action what was sent to them. He understand that that the evenings were a good time for parents to email as they had put their children to bed and that teachers could not look at the email account but PS explained that sending it to the bursar email account would mean they get the email first thing in the morning to action. GWW explained that for some parents it is a life-line in sharing information about their child and some information wasn't always appropriate to send via the bursar. PS agreed with this and will come up with a different way to share confidential information to support parents without it impacting on teachers' wellbeing in the evenings. PS explained that some parents have diaries that go between school and parents which works well which might be helpful to individual parents- Parents can come to talk to their child's class teacher about this if they think it might be helpful.

Discussions were had about homework- Generally positive with the format. Some parents would like to complete work in a book. It was discussed they could write it on paper and then take a photograph for Seesaw. Teachers will mark the work- Through comment if needed and would check the completion of homework at the end of every term.

AOB

Feedback on school dinners- Generally more positive but more KS2 children are having packed lunch and some aren't happy with the menus/ portion sizes. PS has been in the hall more and felt the portion sizes were generally good for the hot dinners and that children could eat more from the salad bar if needed. PS asked for parents to feedback to Freshstart as they regularly change their menus but they are kept the same for all the schools. All types of companies were struggling due to the price of food etc.

Meeting finished 9:20am

Notes by PSmith