

The Saint Paul's Journey

Chair of Governors' meeting with parents – 8:45, 21st June 2018

We had the third of our series of fortnightly open meetings with parents - 17 parents attended.

Governors present were Peter Chadwick, Chair, Sufia Begum (parent governor), Donna Mustapha (co-opted staff governor); Miss Imogen Woods, Consultant Headteacher was also present.

Points that were discussed or reported included:

A review of school governance has been commissioned and was to take place later that day.

Provision for children with special needs - was there enough? And were there enough places in special-needs schools?

Parents wanted closer communication with class teachers and needed to feel that teachers were approachable – Was there space for more one-to-one communication? And, at Parents' Evenings, could the slots for talking with teachers be a little longer, or at least if not for every child then for those with special needs?

Parents were keen to know that home reading would be well structured and children given books at an appropriate level of challenge. It would be good to know that home reading books were marked more regularly.

Will it be possible to have more after- school clubs – particularly in years 1 & 2?
Yes – but when the school has reached a “good“ standard. At present, teachers HAVE to concentrate their efforts and energies on fundamental teaching and learning. When we have improved significantly, there should be capacity for more non-curricular activities.

The school has been having external moderations of teaching and of work books, which are showing that we are already beginning to improve.

Homework correction looked spasmodic at times. It was explained that the expectations of writing could vary depending on the subject. Thus if Science was being taught teachers would look for comprehension of the subject rather than give scrupulous attention to spelling and punctuation.

The School Barbecue will be held on xx July. Last year only 180 tickets had been available – because of the size of the main playground and health and safety issues. We could cater for more, but only if we were to open the second playground. This would need more adult supervision, as would organising more activities, which

would be welcome. This is an area where parent volunteers would be very very helpful. A number of parents offered to help Donna M, who is the principal organizer.

The next meetings will be on Thursday 5 June and Thursday 19 June.

PDC