



*Broadclyst & Westclyst Community  
Primary Schools  
Cornerstone Digital Academies*



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**Parent Consultation Meeting  
Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February at 7.00pm  
School Hall**

**MINUTES**

31 parents online  
9 parents in person

**Parents Evenings & New Booking System – 28<sup>th</sup> February and 1<sup>st</sup> March**  
*Helen from Groupcall*

We will be using the same system for parents evening as the Autumn term, but will look to introduce the new system demonstrated by Helen, in the Summer term.

- Helen explained how to book a parents evening appointment :
  - Click the link which will then take you to the login page
  - Add details of your child
  - Parent evening dates available will be shown
  - You can then use the automated booking wizard or can work through the details for yourself
  - Choose the day/time you would like
  - Click 'Make my booking'
  - The booking details will be held for 300 seconds waiting for you to confirm
  - Add a comment if you would like
  - Choose to email confirmation or print your booking
  - A tutorial is available at the top of the page if needed
  - If you have issues with booking, contact the school
- The appointment system will be available through the Xpressions app as well as a link within the notifying letter
- Xpressions App Update
  - Simple to download
  - Important to keep the school up to date with all contact details
  - If you have children in other schools and they also use Groupcall/Xpressions you will be able to see all children's information in one place – a note for the school is to include a 'token' or start messages with BCPS to differentiate at a glance
  - Where a response is needed for more than one of your children there will be individual messages for replies – easier for the school to collate responses
  - Where a response is required parents can reply regardless of its position in the timeline or thread unlike conventional text messages

## **Parent Questions/Feedback**

- Swim lanes are not currently operational fully – Groupcall are working on this
- Has Westcylst Xpressions has been enabled – Helen will verify this

## **Head Lice Talk**

*Tracey Wills-Cromwell - School Nurse*

- Head lice information will be sent once a term as a reminder but this will always be an ongoing community problem
- Alert letters will not be sent home as they cause unnecessary alarm and inappropriate treatment
- Head lice are very common, they can cause itching but are not harmful. However they are a nuisance and can cause discomfort in those that have allergic reactions. Head lice are particularly common among children between 4-11 year old
- 6 legged insects, not much bigger than a pinhead. They live for 30 days. Anyone can catch head lice whether hair is clean or dirty. They spread through direct head to head contact
- A 'nit' is just an empty case that remains firmly stuck to the hair after the louse has hatched. Having nits doesn't necessarily mean that someone has head lice
- Head lice cannot jump, swim or fly. However they can crawl quickly (about 23cms per minute) along hairs up to the scalp
- Head lice feed off of blood. They cannot survive off of the head for very long. Transmission on clothes, brushes, hats, and other items is unlikely. However, it is best to not share.
- Wet combing is the best way of detection. The Nitty Gritty is a very good long term solution
  - Use lots of conditioner
  - Run the detection comb from the tip of the scalp through one section of hair at a time
  - Wipe with white tissue after every stroke to see if you have head lice
  - Pay particular attention to the back of ears and neck
- One off spot checks on dry hair is not fool proof method of detection
- Repeat the process every 3-4 days over a 2 week period
- NHS Choices has good advice
- There are chemical treatments available although some can be harsh. However, there are hypoallergenic products on the market. Some need to be repeated 1 week later. Sometimes head lice can build up resistance. Also, you still need to comb through using a detection comb

## **Parent Questions/Feedback**

- Should we inform the teacher/school if head lice are found?
  - Not necessary if parents are taking steps to remove the lice
- Request to add the picture of the head lice to the letter to help those parents who have not seen head lice before

## **Health Programme Across the School**

*Tracey Cromwell-Will – School Nurse*

- Previously school nurse support would have been supplied by NHS, now Virgin Care. Four nurses currently cover a very large area of schools. Currently we are offered 1 lesson for year 6, cover for data collection of heights and weights and attending child protection meetings and meeting those with very specific child health issues. There is no support offered on health programmes, such as healthy eating
- The school has invested in employing Tracey to help with health programmes to support teachers and children. Helping children to be helpful, considerate and aware of life choices

- BCPS now has a medical room onsite for Tracey to work from
- There is now a through-school health education process :
  - Nursery – introduction to the role of school nurse, not first aid (the school has nominated first aiders) in Nursery. Focus around healthy diet, keeping fit, hygiene, dental hygiene, head lice, sun safety
  - Reception – reminders about healthy lifestyles/eating and sun safety
  - Year 1 – our bodies, all about me, hygiene and healthy eating/exercise. Discussing bodies early in education means that once the children hear the bigger messages in year 6, it won't be such a surprise
  - Year 2 – healthy eating/smoothie making and growing up
  - Year 3 – oral hygiene, making good choices, taking responsibilities for actions, growing up, being kind and sun safety, healthy eating and hydration
  - Year 4 – healthy eating/hydration, friendships (early links with relationships), growing up and first aid
  - Year 5 – healthy lifestyles including gaming/relaxation/importance of sleep and how much, friendships, smoking/drugs/alcohol, puberty and growing up including wellbeing and emotions and CPR
  - Year 6 – lifecycles including foetal growth, healthy eating and nutrition, hidden sugars and puberty x4 sessions including SRE
- Also delivery of public health messages across the school; hand hygiene sessions for every year group this year, healthy eating and hydration plays an important part throughout the sessions.

### **Parent Questions/Feedback**

- How often do the sessions happen?
  - Every term with more emphasis in the older year groups. Already been in every year group twice this academic year
- Would you advise leaving Tracey to communicate Sex and Relations questions?
  - Need to be age appropriate and answer questions as they arise. Need to ensure children can talk to parents with any concerns. Tracey encourages children to speak with parents with after the sessions at an appropriate time
- Will you teach children mindfulness?
  - Not something we've considered as yet. However the school use 'story time' where there is quieter time after 3pm. Will consider this feedback
- Asthmatic child – what happens with storage and use of inhalers?
  - There is a medical box within each class and teachers are briefed on when and how to use them throughout the school day. There will be a letter sent to all parents to ensure we have the up to date information
- Parents can email Tracey with questions and request an appointment but there is a process needed to ensure her resource is used appropriately
- There will be a new defibrillator installed in the school for the benefit of children and adults and the wider community

### **SEN (Special Educational Needs) Support Services**

*Nina Rothery – Assistant Headteacher*

- Teresa Cavallo is on maternity leave currently and therefore Nina Rothery and Jonathan Bishop have been looking after SENCO operations
- SEN support is anything which require support that is 'different from' or 'additional to' that of other children
- SEN team :
  - Angie Mudge - School Psychologist

- Libby Newman - Speech and Language
- Tracey Wills-Cromwell – School Nurse
- How do we support your child :
  - ensure every child feels valued and supported
  - inspire confidence and raise self-esteem
  - acknowledge specific difficulties
  - teachers, SENCo and parents work together
  - adapt curriculum and or delivery
  - enrich curriculum
  - ensure access to IT
  - additional adult support
  - employ specialists in Speech and Language, Educational Psychology, School Nurse
  - provide a nurturing yet ambitious environment
- Review any additional requirements for support and what strategies might be needed by introducing the support of specialist roles eg School Psychologist, Speech and Language
- Can apply for a statutory assessment whereby gather evidence and approach parents
- The school can put in place a DAF – Devon Assessment Framework if it is felt the child needs additional support. This starts with teacher/parent conversations which can then be escalated to Nina Rothery if necessitated who can instigate additional steps if necessary
- As a team, strategies will be formulated to help support teachers to support children appropriately

### **World Book Day – Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March**

*Bronnie Williams – Class Teacher*

- 3 authors to visit the whole school throughout the week of World Book Day
  - Lucy Volpin – visited before when she worked as an illustrator with Reception class
  - Kate Scott – humorous local author
  - CJ Busby – author of “-spell” books
  - Books will be available for sale/signing on the relevant days
  - Following week – year 5 Fantastic Mr Fox performance
  - 500 words competition will be a focus for years 3-6. There will be an internal competition judged by the Leadership Team, but stories will also be entered into the national competition
  - All children can dress up as a character from their favourite book
  - Themed lunch
- The new librarian will be announced shortly which will mean the library will open for longer

### **Home Learning Opportunities & Feedback from Parents**

- Home learning assigned on a Monday to be complete by the following Monday
- It is optional but teachers will also encourage children to complete the exercises within school hours

### **Parent Questions/Feedback**

- With so many options available – where should children put work their once complete?
  - Save into personal space on OneNote or email to the class teacher. However we genuinely are trying to be flexible about how the work is completed. Microsoft Classroom is a new product that some classes are beginning to use
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- Ideally OneNote is for resources, OneDrive for documents and then submit through Classroom for completed work. The school is still working on this process and will send a document to clarify once confirmed
- How does this operate within the 'no homework policy'?
  - The 'no homework policy' still is in place for years N-5. Home learning offers parental choice. Children can complete the work at after school club if parents would like their child to. Many parents are asking for the opportunity for their child to learn more and home learning provides this. Some elements also provide 'flipped learning', where the child can watch a video/learn something prior to the lesson, empowering them to feel able to contribute or share their experience when in class. Home learning is an enrichment of what is already provided at school
- Some parents say they can't get their children to work at home, but when the school add emphasis, children are more likely to complete activities at home
- League tables – the competition drives children to participate/succeed

### **Musical Theatre - Buggy Malone**

*Bronnie Williams – Year 6 Teacher*

- Riding on the success of Lion King the school has double the number of children involved this year - 90 children across years 4, 5 and 6. 30 of the 90 children are boys which is unusually high
- Currently in the middle of the rehearsal process. It was workshopped before Christmas
- Performance dates : 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> May
- Will be asking for parent help volunteers – costuming in particular will be a challenge
- Donations such as suits that can be altered or 1920s costumes would be gratefully received
- Please email [bronniewilliams@bcps.org.uk](mailto:bronniewilliams@bcps.org.uk) if you would like to be involved
- Nearer the time the school will ask for help with hair and make-up, refreshments and back stage
- The Musical Theatre group will be going to see Joseph at the Princess Theatre shortly with 75 pupils attending

### **Parent Volunteers – Reading and the Library, Gardening, Sporting Opportunities**

*Jonathan Bishop – Headteacher*

- The school is requesting for additional parent volunteers. This includes :
  - occasional volunteers although it is recommended parents don't go on trips with their own children as it can cramp their style
  - regular weekly time to hear reading in class
  - time in the allotment – this could involve planting, tending plants, harvesting or a one off dig over at the beginning of the season. The could be working regularly with the children or time at a weekend
  - sporting opportunities – coaching sport, accompanying children to events
- Need to apply to volunteer as the school has a duty to ensure care is of an appropriate standard
- Volunteer form is available, please email Nina Rothery [nrothery@bcps.org.uk](mailto:nrothery@bcps.org.uk) once complete

### **Parent Questions/Feedback**

- What timescales are involved to make a regular commitment?
  - The school would consider anything from 30-45 mins per week, upwards
  - But it could also be 3-6hrs per term, perhaps for a trip
- Would be good to share parent volunteer stories

## **Discos – Reception to Year 3 : Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March, Years 4 to 7 : Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March**

- Held at Clyst Vale
- Would like volunteers to ensure safety and serve refreshments
- Will send a letter confirming details including timing

### **Parent Questions/Feedback**

- Too dark in the refreshment corner previously
- Could sweets be pre-bagged before the event to save time

## **E-Safety Policies, Resources and Parents Workshop**

*Anthony Lees*

- Parent e-safety session : 30<sup>th</sup> March – dedicated to online safety, developing safe behaviours in a safe environment
- eSafety Strategy
  - A clear policy and review system
  - A range of nationally recognised resources
  - Yammer and office365
  - A filtering process
  - A monitoring solution
- Yammer is used in an educational manner but brings awareness of how this form of communication should be managed

## **New Payment System for Breakfast and After School Club**

*David James – Deputy Headteacher*

- Wisepay has some glitches with payment rebates, etc. It currently works well receiving straight payment of one sum
- Charging in 30 minute blocks for increased flexibility for breakfast and after school club is causing administration issues
- In future the school will be asking people to book and pay ie book a session and then pay for what you've booked. There will not be the possibility of refunds
- This will help us to ensure our staffing ratios are correct
- Moving forward parents will be able to book hour sessions x 3 at £4 per hour
- We will still register children in and ask for parents to sign them out. If parents run over the hour session, they will be charged for an additional hour
- Parents will be billed separately for late collections. This includes those parents who are late to collect at the end of the school day, whereby children will be taken to the afterschool club

### **Parent Questions/Feedback**

- We are happy to take feedback on the planned changes in writing or in person
- Can Childcare vouchers be used?
  - Will need to confirm
- Will there be a cancellation period for refund/credit?
  - Current thinking is no, due to the cost effective nature of refunds and credit. However the will reviewed before the final plan is put in place
- Is there an automated option for regular bookers?
  - No, as the booking is required to authorise payment