



KINGSWOOD SECONDARY ACADEMY

Parent Forum Minutes
18th March 2014

Present: Jon Lawson (Assistant Principal)
Darren Gadsby (Vice Principal)
David Llewelyn (Progress Leader for Bourne House)

Parent	Child in Year
Stacey Hill	7
Rosetta Tickner	11

(Matters requiring action are shown in red font, initials in brackets show member of staff responsible for taking action)

Matters arising:

Traffic Challenges

- We now have confirmation that a zebra crossing will be installed during May.
- Parking/turning at entrance taxi companies – PCSO Steve Coles has been to see the company. If we are able to provide them with the registration plates of specific vehicles then they will take further action.

Parent Mail

- This has now been installed and we are using for group call, further training this month.
- We are still waiting for emails from parents. We are also waiting for two signatures from Finance Director & Assistant.

Website

- Leave a comment' issue now resolved.

Show My Homework

- Ms Cooksley (Assistant Principal) is leading a series of Assemblies on this for students and has arranged for 'refresher' training for staff.

Health & Safety

- Hazard under stairs – the underside edges of the stairwells have now been painted to highlight them.

Uniform

- S/M/L has now been added to form, together with day of collection.
- Prices are now shown on the website
- Students wearing extra garments in PE during winter - Students are encouraged to wear undergarments need to be careful with zips and hoods for H&S reasons.

Letters on the website

- Format of date on letters – Parents would find it helpful to know exactly which day the letter came out. I have been spoken with the Main Office and this will happen in the future

Rewards (DL / DG)

The need for a proper review of the reward systems of the school has been recognised by the Senior Leadership Team. Mr Gadsby explained that Mr Llewelyn (Progress Leader, Bourne House) has taken on a review of the whole school rewards system.

The system has varied over the years. It is important that we don't reward students for simply following basic expectations as well as recognising that working hard is a reward in itself. Not every reward has to be financial reward.

A. Traditional approach

- Stamps in planners e.g. for good work. Works well with younger year groups.
- Use of Effort Rainbow Postcards.

B. Current approach

- Postcards.
- Houses given points for e.g. attendance, lowest number of on-calls
- Introduction of Vivo (online points system which can then be used to 'buy' goods).
- Prize draw for students in the top band of the effort rainbow.
- Introduction of departmental rewards system e.g. through the use of raffle tickets for particularly good work which are then drawn out at the end of term.
- Y11 expressed would like rewards to do with Prom/Cash/Trips. In response to this there will be an end of year trip for Y11 as a reward.

C. What our proposals are

- Individual level - Vivo will form part of it. DL exploring teachers having printed vouchers that they hand out – students then spend these in online.
- Departmental level – this is an area that needs to be further developed.
- Whole school/House level – this will continue in some form.
- Keep the 100% attendance reward (multi/free Christmas meal/Easter egg) it is good that everyone who achieves is rewarded and not just one name drawn out of a hat.

Parents view:

- Good attendance letters have been well received.
- Needs to be easy.
- Be careful with vouchers – some children are disorganised and may lose them.
- Confusion around Vivo, parents don't understand this. Need further clarity/information.
- Students need to value the reward.
- What about more of a success culture? Simply praising students is reward in itself.
- Consistency among staff is crucial.
- The postcards are great – simple & tangible and they measure effort – it shows a teacher has recognised your child.

A.O.B

Jon Lawson thanked all the parents for attending and generously giving their time.

Next Agenda:

- Matters arising
- Reporting & Parents' Evenings (JL)
- Please could parents bring ideas to the meeting?
- We'll look at:
 - The pattern of reporting (including printed reports and Parents' Evenings)
 - The format of both the 5 Termly Reports as well as the Full Report
 - Is a Full Report still necessary/useful in light of substantial increase in overall reporting frequency?

Items for future agendas

- Communication including website improvements & accessibility – parental ideas
- Road safety
- After school clubs
- Parents' Evenings

Next Meeting

Tuesday 13th May 5.30pm