

**Present:**

Staff	
Jon Lawson (JL)	Deputy Principal
Lisa Hedges LHe)	Deputy Principal
Andy Burton (ABu)	Principal

Parent	Child(ren) in Year ...
Roxana Barna	13
Romeo Cioropan	7
Cheryl Thompson	7&10
Louise Neal	9&10
Tina Collins	9&10
Heather Ironmonger	9
Susanne Cunningham	9

JL welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for coming.

## 1 Minutes from last Parent Forum

### School Blazers

Mr Lawson confirmed that the Trust has now approved the school Blazers so they are definitely going ahead, the company who will be supplying them, Price and Buckland, will be carrying out a fitting session on Wednesday 27 March, further details of this will be communicated out to parents this week.

### Last meeting – The Government has stated intention to increase Ebacc

Mr Lawson thanked everyone for the invaluable input in the last meeting in the discussion of the EBacc and the government suggesting a much higher proportion of students undertaking it.

**Parent question:** With Key Stage 4 being extended, are the current Year 10's going to be disadvantaged, as they haven't had an extended KS4?

**JL:** We have done as much as we could do to prevent that. For the current Year 10's we will stop learning to start revision in plenty of time, the plan is to finish learning at Christmas to have lots of time for exam preparation. They will also have an extra 40 hours in class because they have fewer subjects due to having had less Options to choose. Furthermore, staff have been well aware of the increased scale of content and did work in Y9 to start the delivery of that content with the current Y10s.

## 2 Matters arising

Ofsted have been in this week, this was unexpected after we had the section 8 visit in November. We are still under inspection until the final judgement has been sent to Mr Burton. This should be received this side of Easter so within the next fortnight we will be able to share the results with you all.

### **3 Topic for this meeting: Target setting, assessment therapies and revision.**

Mrs Hedges introduced herself and gave a presentation on the above subject.

- Discussion regarding how parents find the current reports.

**JL** explains the old style reports with long written comments were hugely time consuming and tended to be very out of date by the time they actually reached parents, thus serving little purpose, whereas the new reports use an assessment grid and they are factual, you can see your child's progress instantly because it's more comprehensive (examples reports given out).

- **LHe** adds that the comments in the student's books are more detailed and helpful because they are relevant to a specific piece of work. Although the students don't take their books home often when they do you will see the red pen. We are striving to have a culture of them finding out what is wrong and correcting it. The students use a red pen, the teachers use green.

- **Parent question** - How often do the students have assessments?

**LHe:** This is dependent on different subjects but they should be having one at least once per term.

- **JL:** We might mark one this week give it back to them on Thursday then set them another one on the Friday. Assessments should really be every 2 or 3 weeks.
- **LHe:** To allow re-testing, the therapy could be how to write the answer, some students may have the correct answer but have not written a full explanation.
- **LHe:** Do you get to see students' books at parents' evenings?

Most parents say yes the teachers bring the students books with them. Discussion and explanation around the reasons for this approach.

**JL:** Students don't always remember to bring their books back into school, which can lead to significant disruption to learning. So homework is often completed on separate paper that is then glued into books.

**LHe:** You are welcome to specifically request books to come home.

- **Parent question** – What happens if a child is consistently not meeting targets?

**LHe:** There will be an intervention from the subject teacher, if they feel the need to the teacher will contact the parents. If it is across subjects, the year team will pick it up and address it.

There is a purple plan for students who are not making the progress they should. The class teacher fills it in and they are given a mentor within the faculty.

- **LHe:** Do you feel that the teachers are contacting you enough?

Discussion. Mixed opinions.

- **LHe:** Has ClassCharts been helpful?

Overall yes. Some parents say that not all of the homework is put onto ClassCharts, and the school is encouraging staff to remember to mark the homework as being completed.

### **Revision**

**JL:** As well as the students having their own revision guides provided by the Academy, we have a wide variety of revision tools available to the students including the following:

- The **Eating the Elephant** sheet, this gives a daily subject by subject guide that points students to pages in their revision guides as well as GCSE pods and Maths Watch clips.
- **Mr Sanderson's student revision toolbox.**
- **Mind Mapping.**
- A weekly **Revision planner** that has been given out to all students and is available on the website.
- A how to guide called the **Revision and Exam preparation booklet** available on the Academy website.
- The **Afterschool support for success** timetable.

We will also be issuing an Eating the Elephant guide for Y10 to start after May half term\*. The resources are there it is just a case of finding what works.

**Mr Burton** joins the meeting and asks if anyone uses Twitter or Facebook and whether the parents think it is a good idea to have a school page.

Not everyone uses Twitter but most use Facebook, the general consensus is that it is a good idea because Kingswood Primary Academy have a Facebook page.

All agree, there should be no naming of teachers and the admin should be strict.

**ABu:** There has a spate of bike thefts so that sort of thing would be good to put onto a social media platform, we may have to run it past the Trust first but will let you know the decision.

**AOB**

Parents have asked why the water to buy from the canteen now comes in cartons instead of bottles.

The answer is that we are trying to get rid of plastic to do our bit to help the environment. We have free water fountains, if students want to bring their own bottles they can fill them up for free.

**\*Actions:**

- JL to let Curriculum Leads know that teachers need to bring students' books to parents evening.
- LHe / JL eat the elephant to start after May half term for Y10.
- LHe to further encourage staff with regard to contacting staff where needed.
- LHe to talk to KM regarding use of ClassCharts for homework.

**Future Meeting Suggestions**

- Internet Safety (IH)
- Careers and Aspirations – what careers advice does the Academy offer and how? (BH)
- Rewards and the new Rewards system (PS)