

Brize Norton Primary School Parent Council

Minutes 21st November 2014

Present: Anna Fairhurst (Headteacher); Debs Shipway; Leah Walker; Victoria Doran; Kelly Hatcher

Apologies: Jane Hornsby; Claire Wright; Jackie Hampson; Angela Forrester; Jo Webb

Reception

- People from the community have commented on the good behaviour of the children during the parish remembrance celebration on 7th November.
- Parents of Reception children have noticed that the children are making good progress at the moment in their social skills and learning. It is felt that Mrs Winter is doing a great job.
- The question was asked why the pirate ship is being removed. Mrs Fairhurst explained that the pirate ship is partly rotten and very slippery, meaning that at this time of year it is out of bounds most of the time. Also, it is not a flexible play space: children can only really use it to play pirates. We have already bought a modular climbing frame, with which children can work together to plan and build their play space before enjoying it. Once the pirate ship has gone, we will make the space safe with wood chippings (or similar), then the children can use this. We feel that the new climbing frame will be a lot more fun for the children and encourage teamwork and speaking and listening skills in the planning and making process, whilst being just as much fun to play on.

Class 2

- Parents are reporting that things have settled down since the start of term, and children are happier.
- A couple of parents have been talking about "bullying". The Parent Council have been encouraging parents who have concerns about individual children to talk to class teachers or Mrs Fairhurst. Mrs Fairhurst thanked them for this: we can't help children if we don't know there is a problem!
- There is confusion about when swimming finishes. Mrs Fairhurst will find out and put it in a newsletter next week
- There is concern about children and parents being unsafe while crossing the road near the car park and whilst in the car park itself. Mrs Fairhurst will mention this in the newsletter and in her next assembly with the children.
- The children really enjoyed having PC Richard Conner in to talk about his role and about bullying. The Parent Council felt that direct teaching on what bullying is and isn't has been useful during Anti-Bullying Week.

Class 3

- The children are enjoying Zumba and the other clubs on offer at the moment, but many of them are missing Sports Club. Mrs Fairhurst explained that Mrs Rae can only offer a club every other term, as she is part-time and needs to attend staff meetings in the other terms. It was discussed whether more clubs could be offered by parents, and whether more parents might be interested in helping out generally in school. Mrs Fairhurst agreed that when parents help in school or run clubs, it provides excellent opportunity for the children. She agreed to put that in the newsletter too.

Class 4

Nothing was reported.

Date of next meeting
9.00 Friday 23rd January