

Parents' Voice notes from Term 6 meeting – 30th June 2015

18 people attended. The meeting was facilitated by Ruth Cochrane (Community Development Coordinator). Other staff attending were Daniel Webster (Deputy Head), Craig Hardy and Sophie Smith from our Sunflower room, and Jo Goodhind from the school office.

Item	Response / Action
Follow up from last meeting's minutes.	Ruth reported that lots of ideas for after-school club had been generated by Rachel, and parents' requests for more football for KS1 had been noted. We also reported a response to one parent that children develop social skills from ALL clubs!
Daniel Webster reported on progress with our new Learning Resource centre. The ICT suite is being developed into a new space where children will have opportunities to develop independent learning skills. Unfortunately some ambitious plans for an upper level have had to be changed due to cost and structural issues. The room will be staffed by a teacher (Mrs Kyte, who is returning from maternity leave) and an LSA (Vic Johnson).	We looked at design plans. We will keep you up to date with developments and opportunities. Volunteers will be able to use this room if teachers negotiate this and there may be opportunities to use the room before and after school as well. Tracey (Ben's mum) will investigate a local celebrity to officially open the Learning Resource Base!
Craig and Sophie talked about the Sunflower room and how this works in school. He explained that this is an intervention where children can work on behaviour, social skills and emotional skills. Children remain part of their class as well. Craig also explained how the Bluebell team work with children.	One parent asked whether children want to stay in the Sunflower room for ever, rather than re-joining their class. Craig and Sophie replied that at the start, children are often really excited and pleased to be in the Sunflower room rather than class, but after some time they are usually keen to re-join their peers. Children often say they are 'ready to go back to class now'. Several parents asked if they could visit the Sunflower room. This was agreed and a date set for Thursday 9 th July, at 9am. Craig explained that children would not be there at this time as that would be disruptive for them, but that this would be a good time to look around the room and find out more about what goes on there! We will confirm this date in the newsletter.
Lunchtime play – one parent asked about having lunchtime buddies or identified children who could keep an eye out for children who find lunchtimes difficult or who have experienced unkindness from other children. Two parents expressed an interest in volunteering at lunchtime because they have had concerns about their children.	A parent volunteer said she thought having playground buddies could be counterproductive. We agreed to invite Fatoumata to the next meeting, so she can explain how lunchtimes are organised and explore ideas that parents may have. Ruth explained that volunteering at lunchtime was welcomed, but that people should understand they would be part of a team, and not there to be with their child only. Ruth will follow up DBS forms and volunteering agreements with the two volunteers who want to come in.

<p>Jo came from the office to explain how some systems work. She handed out menus and explained that these were also available on the website. She explained the system of using envelopes for paying money in and also encouraged people to use the online payment system.</p>	<p>If parents need help or need to extend their online payment registration they should speak to the office. Parents that have used it found the system useful.</p>
<p>A parent asked about trip letters and whether there was a better system for collecting all these letters every time.</p>	<p>Ruth will research whether there is an 'opt in to all trips' possibility!</p>
<p>A parent asked if sports day for KS1 has been rescheduled.</p>	<p>We will include this information in this week's newsletter.</p>
<p>There was a general discussion about lost property. Some parents are frustrated at losing lots of things; meanwhile the lost property cupboard is overflowing!</p>	<p>Parents are strongly encouraged to use the Stikins labels or similar so that clothes can be clearly labelled and the labels can't be removed!</p>
<p>Parents asked about Eid, which is likely to fall on the last day of term.</p>	<p>We will put something in the newsletter about Eid.</p>

Our next meeting is on 30th September 2015