

**St Andrew's CEVC Primary School, Great Yeldham**  
**Response to Parents Forum – 16<sup>th</sup> November 2011**

Issues that were discussed:

**PLEASE NOTE THERE IS A PAGE ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE, BOTH IN PARENTS AND GOVERNORS, WHERE THE MINUTES AND RESPONSES TO THE PARENTS FORUM MEETINGS ARE PUBLISHED. THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING THE MEETING.**

**1. Low Attendance at Parents' Forum**

- Parents already attending were going to 'drum up' support in the playground.
- Mrs Gurney to arrange posters and an article for the newsletter.
- Mr Hornsby and Mrs Tosh to arrange for a table in the hall at the Spring term parents' evening to promote forum.

**2. School Books - a parent suggested that some books appeared dated.**

- The school library was overhauled, at a cost to the school, by Essex Library Services in the Autumn term. All old and dated books were removed and either thrown or replaced (150 books - replaced).
- The books in all class bases were also overhauled by Essex Library Services, in the Autumn term, and the majority were in good order. Those that were not were thrown or replaced. £500.00 of additional books, where there were gaps, were purchased from Essex Library Services and distributed evenly between classes. The books can be exchanged on the 'Book Bus' in future which provides good value for money for the school and means we can continually keep books new through exchange.
- On January 5<sup>th</sup> – non-pupil day, the staff are going to re-code all the reading books in Butler & de Vere Classes. We will take the opportunity to throw out old and dated books and it is our intention to spend £500 on new readers for the KS1 pupils.
- A suggestion was to buy books from 'book people' which the school already does. We have purchased, in the past, multiple copies of Roald Dahl books and Diary of a Wimpy Kid, for example, which are used for Guided Reading sessions.
- The PTA are also going to consider a letter to local businesses for either new book donations and/or money donations for books. We thank you for your support on this matter.

**3. Bikes and Scooters left at School - the forum left the solution for the headteacher to consider.**

- The requests made about pupils being able to leave bikes and scooters was raised again and therefore this item will be considered by Governors at the next Full Governing Body meeting in the Spring Term.

**4. School Sports**

- Concerns were raised again about our pupils attending local sports events with very little practice as a team. Mr Felton, with good notice from the

school, is willing to support the teams with tactical advice before they attend the events.

### **5. School Dinners**

- Stuart Hornsby, parent governor and Chair of Parents' Forum, will write a letter to parents suggesting if we don't use the school dinner facilities we may lose them.

### **6. Fundraising**

- The PTA and Parents' Forum suggested they could work closely to support the raising of funds for additional educational resources.

### **7. Other Questions for Ms Trappitt**

- **Location of notice board** to be considered as an integral part of a new fence.  
Ms Trappitt will consult with the persons appointed to erect the fence, when this agreed, and take advice from them on this matter.
- **Head Lice in school.** In response to the question about hair being tied back; the only time the school has the authority to request this hair is for P.E., which is a health and safety requirement. When head lice become prevalent in school we can recommend to parents, via the newsletter, that this is the best solution for stopping the spread of head lice.
- **Gifted & Talented pupils**  
The policy for gifted and talented pupils is available in the curriculum section on the school website. The policy shows how 'Gifted & Talented' pupils are identified and supported at St Andrew's.

Ms Maria Trappitt

Date for the next **Parent Forum** meeting: Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> March at 3.15, in school.