

Toddington St George Church of England School

Parent Forum 2016-17

Monday 12th December 215pm

Focus: Parent forum focus on supporting parents – other subjects.

Apologies:

Present:

Question: Do you feel able to support your child with their learning in other subjects?

Parents feel that the informative curriculum sheets that are sent home that they are able to support the children in other curriculum areas. However, most parents focus on helping numeracy and literacy at home as a priority.

Parents feel that the take-home tasks are beneficial towards supporting other areas of the curriculum.

Question: Do you feel able to support your child with their homework in other subjects (take-home task)?

As discussed previously take-home tasks are generally well received by the parents and they feel these are an enjoyable and creative experience for both children and parents.

Question: Do you think the delivery of the national curriculum through the creative curriculum inspires your child?

Parents felt that their children were inspired and engaged in the various different topics that they study throughout the academic year. Parents think that teachers do a good job in providing creative and inspiring displays in classrooms and also the staff have good ideas to link other aspects of the curriculum to the topic is being studied. Parents enjoy looking at all of the wonderful displays that are clearly evident throughout all of the classrooms and corridors throughout the school and it's clearly identifiable what topic is being studied at any point in time. On the whole parents believe that the creative curriculum is very beneficial to their child's development. For example things like the nativity display was very good and other key themes that have been covered this year such as Remembrance help reinforce and introduce key learning and ensure they develop as a well rounded citizen.

Question: Do you think visitors/ visits linked to the National Curriculum inspire your child?

Parents believe that trips and visits are very beneficial to support key themes and are on the whole very inspiring. All the children really enjoyed the trips and external groups that may come in to deliver sessions to the children. On the whole parents believe that these trips and visits inspire their children as it helps them to remember and reinforce learning of key themes by bringing them to life. Parents also enjoy the opportunity to be involved so that they can help share the experience with their children. Parents raised the question of whether parents could be further encouraged to come in more to help deliver and assist with different clubs at school.

Question: Are the take-home tasks appropriate and wide ranging?

As discussed previously parents enjoy the challenge of take home tasks and the opportunity to work collectively with their children. Some discussion around access to resources and costs need to be considered.

Question: Is there enough time given to complete take-home tasks?

Parents enjoy the different options and the opportunity to creative something with their children. Parents wondered what happens if children do not participate in the take-home tasks. Parents prefer a long time to complete the tasks to ensure that they are able to develop plan and prepare ideas and so they can take the time to complete the project. Some parents questioned whether what happens to children during year 2 are there alternative activities completed at school to develop creativity.

Question: Do you feel the range of clubs supports your child's learning?

Parents felt there was a range of opportunities for different clubs for their children to participate in. There was some discussion around invitation only clubs as it was unclear what the criteria is for selection. If there is a selection criteria for certain clubs, art and maths parents would like to be better informed about what the criteria is for selection. Parent enquired what is available for middle ground learners for the development.

In previous years there used to be canopy play available at lunch time to assist and help identified learners. Parents wanted to know whether this was still available for pupils. There was also some discussion about what optional lunchtime groups run as some parents were unsure about what runs and therefore would appreciate a bit more clarity or reminder potentially each term.

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Parents raised the question as whether there is a teacher forum and if not whether there should be one?

Back entrance to the school: parents raised concerns over the untidy presentation of the school around the back entrance of the school. Parents were concerned about the first impression that this generates, in particular for parents who are collecting children from after-school club's. Parents were keen to help and were wondering if there could be a tidy up the school campaign to improve the general visual appearance of the outside of the school.

Parents wondered whether there could be a Wish List issued to parents to see if parents are able to provide or donate resources that the school were looking to acquire.

Parents raised concerns over the state of some of the flooring across the school especially in light of how much time children spend sitting on it each day and wondered if there was anything they could do to help improve this.