

Parent Forum Agenda/Mins

Tuesday 4th February @ 2.30pm in school

Present: Present: Yr1, Yr2, Yr3, Yr4, Yr6

Apologies: Yr5, Rec

Item		Action
1. Agree minutes from previous meeting.	Reviewed meeting notes from last meeting Autumn 2 – on website.	
2. Actions from the previous meeting	None recorded.	
3.	<p><u>1. PLACE PLANNING UPDATE (School closures)/NEW INTAKE TOURS AND SPACES</u></p> <p>Parents will be aware that the statutory consultation on school place planning has begun and is only open until the 3rd February 2025. The Local Authority urge and would welcome parents to have your say on the proposals to close Brading, Oakfield, Cowes, Arreton and Wroxall Primary Schools. Currently, the Island has 10,724 primary school places available, but the number of children needing these places is projected to fall significantly by 2027. The fall in birth rate on the Island is impacting all schools, including ours. We already have 13 spaces at Nettlestone and we already believe that we may not be full in our Reception Class next September. For every place that remains unfilled at Nettlestone we lose approximately £4,000 funding. This limits our capacity to offer exciting opportunities and aspects of provision including wraparound care, extra-curricular activities as well as obviously limiting our ability to offer high quality teaching and learning. The reality is that currently our school is being asked to do more and more with less and less and we are simply running out of money. Parents should also note that during the last round of consultation alternative proposals to the school closures were suggested. One option that was proposed and shared with the council was a merger of Oakfield and Nettlestone Primary Schools. Should the existing proposals to close five schools not be adopted, proposals such as this merger may be given further and serious consideration. We are sure that our community would take a very strong view on this and your views must be shared. Please could we encourage all parents to make a difference and submit your views.</p> <p>Reception – 29/Yr1 – 24/Yr2 – 30/Yr3 – 29/Yr4 – 29/Yr5 – 28/Yr6 – 30</p> <p>We do currently have these places in school, this equates to lost money.</p> <p><u>2. THERAPEUTIC CLASSROOM AWARD</u></p> <p>First Federation/School on the IOW to achieve the Gold Award.</p>	

	<p><u>3. OPAL/PLAYTIME CHANGES</u></p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cm7IfAEsjqI</p> <p>Video demonstrated and all parents thought that a change to timetable with a longer playtime and no playtime would be better for the children.</p> <p>AOB.....</p> <p>SCHOOL COMPUTORS: UPDATE</p> <p>Have achieved fund raising £8k laptops as well as money for dataloggers for the Yr4 curriculum. Hoping to achieve funding for Yr1 Beebots curriculum as well. -</p> <p><u>YEAR GROUP FEEDBACK AND ACTIONS</u></p> <p>Reception and Yr2 - More variety of clubs and would it be possible to publish the proposed clubs at the end of the previous term so give parents a bit more time to juggle childcare to accommodate the clubs – HOS reminded all parents that staff are not contracted for after school clubs or wrap around care and we work on a ‘good will’ programme. Staff give up their time to stay in school longer to support our community at the detriment of their own families. If budgets are tighter and staffing lessened then facilities like these will not take place. Further discussion highlighted the ongoing financial challenges within the federation, inadequate government funding and continually increasing running costs on school has determined that the Governors have requested school undertake a review of the cost of providing clubs and wrap-around care. Our aim is to continue to provide the best possible offer with the resources we have. Our review will determine the cost to the school of providing the care - wages, sustenance etc. to see if a price rise needs to take place. Given we haven't increased the costs of clubs for a significant amount of years and general running costs have increased, we are anticipating a level of increase. Any increase will take effect from the start of the Summer term 2025.</p>	
4.	Next meeting: Spring 2 – 26.3.25	