

Parental feedback from parent voice group 26th April 2022

'You said - we did'

You said	We did
Early Years	
Nursery - Would be good to know what children are doing on a week to week basis, like the older years have on google classroom so we can assist with learning at home eg: sound of the week	All children's learning is uploaded to their Tapestry account this will ensure that all parents will see what their child has been learning through the week, we also offer home learning Bingo (introduced Summer term). This is where there are several activities for the parents to do and then upload to Tapestry over the half term.
Communication could be slightly better eg: being informed about things like the confidence building intervention group if your child is part of it	This will be fed back at phase meetings and to the Inclusion team to make sure this information is being included in Parent Teacher Consultations
Reception - Parents complain of waiting weeks for a reply when they send emails to the reception email address	If parents have waited longer than the agreed timescales or if their email is not related to curriculum or information that parents need to know, then the admin email should be used. Parents also need to say in their email whether a response is required.
Some parents have difficulty accessing Collins eBooks	A parent guide for how to use Collins eBooks can be resent home via Tapestry. Any other technical issues with access to be brought to the attention of class teacher. If access to technology and suitable equipment is a difficulty, school might be able to provide a laptop.
Some parents unsure of home learning bingo, when it has to be completed and if they have to complete all tasks	Home Learning Bingo is to be completed over the half term and parents can do as many as they wish (with uploads to Tapestry). This information to be included at the bottom of the Home Learning grid
Year 1, 2, 3	
Class email addresses to be published on Google Classroom	We are currently in the process of reviewing the school website. This is something we can include. Action – Mr Steel to add class email addresses to current school website
Yr 1 - have been asked to bring a specific 'type' of water bottle, is this compulsory? Lots of parents feel strongly about this	Some children have difficulty opening the lids of their water bottles. When selecting a water bottle, children need to be able to open and close the lid independently. Bottles with screw lids are particularly challenging for little hands!
Lots of missing cardigans in Yr 1, could teachers remind children to ensure they have their belongings at home time	Children are encourage to put their jumpers on their pegs if they are removed during the day. Misplaced named clothing are returned to classes. Unfortunately, we do have a high

	number of clothing that is not named; these are put in the lost property basket by the main reception.
Anxiety around 'loo breaks' Yr 1 have been told they are not allowed to go the loo during class time. This needs to be looked into or if implemented. Children need to be prompted/remind to go to the loo during breaks	Children are encouraged to use the toilet during break and lunchtime, to avoid lost learning time when in class. Children will not be prevented from using the toilet if there is a genuine need to go. Miss Christmas to discuss procedures with staff.
Yr 1 - children asking to use the toilet and being told no, or have set times to use the toilet	Please see above.
Yr 1 – Could children be reminded to use the toilet at the end of the school day (especially if the children walk home)	If a child has any specific issues relating to toileting, please make the class teacher aware so that they can take this into consideration throughout the day.
ECollins books are not quite working. Some children do not have their books uploaded each week and some have more than one, confused children and parents. Some children's books are not changed	A document explaining expectations of staff regarding communication via reading records and allocating ebooks has been produced and distributed to staff. There will be further information shared with parents in the near future.
Inconsistent communication on Google Classroom. Some teachers are better than others and some parents do not receive any feedback	Weekly compliance monitoring of Twitter, Lobby Screen PowerPoint and Google Classroom topics is being undertaken. Classes and year groups are met with when anything is not posted. Significant improvement over the last half term due to rigorous compliance monitoring.
Can we invite other parents 'non parent voice' to parent voice meetings, may be publish the date in the newsletter	Parent voice meetings are advertised to all parents/carers. Parents are welcome to join the meetings we just ask parents inform us before the meeting to ensure we can accommodate all. However, we do generally ask that parent reps would be the first point of call to discuss an issue with that can be raised at the parent voice meeting. Going forward, we could look at having year group events.
Yr2 - Doors could open more promptly in mornings and afternoons	Year 2 staff have been informed.
TTRS battle of the bands times of 7.30am – 4.30pm could be altered as not workable for working parents	Timings were put in place so as to try not to impinge too much on family life and put pressure on evenings. Next 'Battle of the Bands' will incorporate change of times so that it is accessible between 7.00 and 5.30.
Too many emails about Herts + 3 rd parties	To condense the information sent out on the weekly newsletter some information is now being sent via Arbor. As a maintained school, we are expected to communicate information from Hertfordshire County Council.

<p>Understand you have agreed on 1 tweet per class per week, but would love more</p>	<p>We fully understand that you would like more tweets. With all the external factors and a new curriculum for English and Maths and the wider curriculum currently in implementation, we wanted to focus on first quality teaching and delivering great teaching sequences to ensure all children make great progress. The tweet captures 'in the moment' learning and we are undertaking weekly monitoring to ensure compliance. As the need for google classroom uploads reduce, we can review the number of expected tweets.</p>
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<p>Has the school ever rented the field out for community use? Would you consider renting it for events?</p>	<p>The school letting policy is currently under review. The field will be included within this. We also need to consider access to facilities such as toilets so it would not be just a let for the field.</p>
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Year 2 Parent feedback on the new reading routine

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents and children preferred it when home reading books were assigned more regularly • Children are reluctant to read at home because they have become bored of the book that they read through and discussed 3 times in class the previous week • Parents are reluctant to force children to read the e-book as don't want to make reading a chore. Turning to books from home instead • Parents also not keen to listen to their child read the same book all week long and run out of questions to ask and comments to write in the reading record • Parents feel they read less with their children on the new routine • Parents feel they read less with their children on the new routine • Children only reading for the sake of a merit and not because they want to • Technical issues or device limitations see children reading on the app which only allows 1 page at a time rather than a 2 page spread, meaning the text and illustrations aren't being viewed as intended. Physical books are missed • How are parents to know when their child is progressing now the animal system isn't being used? • Can additional books be assigned over half terms and holidays? • The reading practice stamps are a good way of recording class reading, however parents miss the personalised comments relating to child's progress at school • Suggestion: The book children have read in class the previous week to still 	<p>A survey will be sent out to all parents this half term to allow us to review the changes made to reading books and routines and make any changes deemed necessary prior to the start of the new academic year.</p> <p>Information will also be sent home to further explain details shared at the Little Wandle parent workshops regarding the principles behind the new reading routine and the importance of rereading to develop fluency.</p>
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<p>be uploaded for reading once or more at home to showcase their confidence. But also for additional reading material of child's level to be uploaded, or preferably physical books sent home, throughout the week for variety and to keep their interest in reading alive</p>	
<p>Year 4,5,6</p>	
<p>Any school trips planned?</p>	<p>We all love school trips! Both Year 5 and Year 6 have had Residential opportunities, the choir have sung at the O2 as part of Young Voices, a group of children are going to Westminster Abbey (invited by Lord Salisbury) and we have our 'Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies' theme week. Year 6 are part of the County Show for Children pilot (only 600 children are attending) due to Miss Prickett being part of the planning group. Other local events have been planned.</p> <p>For 2022-2023, trips and visitors are linked to the Curriculum as this makes learning 'stick'. Teachers will be responsible for organising such events and I know that a music workshop and excursion for Year 4 has already been planned (linked to them learning the stringed instruments).</p> <p>We also need to be mindful of costs, as the current cost of living for all parents needs to be taken into consideration. As an Eco school, we need to take full advantage of what is on our doorstep and review of mode of transport as reducing our carbon footprint must be taken into consideration.</p>
<p>Are Friday assemblies going to restart</p>	<p>We will be reviewing Friday assemblies to ensure there is a balance between community celebration assemblies and children accessing essential curriculum time.</p> <p>The current issue we have is that the middle sliding doors do not currently open which means there will be limited space for external attendance. The net capacity of the hall cannot be exceeded on grounds of health, safety and insurance.</p>
<p>School clubs ... can there be more options for year 4? Didn't seem to be much for them this time + bring back running club</p>	<p>Many of the school clubs are voluntarily led by class teachers and teaching assistants which are in addition to their teaching responsibilities. Clubs are regularly reviewed and change on a termly basis. These changes are made to offer a wider diet of experiences and are linked to the calendar year (weather and access to indoor space).</p>
<p>Update website with class details: not being used</p>	<p>The website is currently being rebuilt behind the scenes. With google classroom / Tapestry parents are receiving far more information here. We are also looking to embed the Twitter account onto the website to avoid several uploads of the same learning experience.</p>
<p>Communication methods between reps and parents – how can we improve engagement? Can reps get a school emails address?</p>	<p>Emails for parent voice reps have been established.</p>

<p>Covid route in/out school ... can this go back to pre-covid ways?</p>	<p>This has been quite a discussion within school and having a one-way system enables the 445 children leave the site safely. The entrance area becomes quite clogged with prams / younger siblings with scooters etc so if this is two way traffic it is likely that children will be separated from their parents and then walking out into a car park area potentially distressed. School has a duty of care to keep children safe and therefore the one-way system is a 'COVID Keep' The school has set up with several families individual arrangements. Should you feel you need an arrangement please contact the admin team who will arrange a meeting with a member of the leadership team.</p>
<p>Twitter: Feel get more from some classes than others</p>	<p>This was raised at Governing Board level. Weekly compliance monitoring is in place and where tweets etc expectations have not met then conversations are had with team members to ensure that compliance is met.</p>
<p>Swimming lessons for Yr4? (missed it in Yr3 and talk of happening at some point?)</p>	<p>Year 3 started swimming at the start of the Spring term. It was planned that both Year 3 and Year 4 would swim this year however we were unable to find a mutually convenient time with the provider. It is planned that the current Year 4 will swim in Year 5 from September 2022.</p>
<p>Email comms from school/Head etc: not enough + can come sometimes 'last minute'</p>	<p>Structure of newsletters have changed which has had positive feedback. The frequency of communication from school has also been viewed as too much. School will always seek to get a balance. Point noted around 'last minute' however, this may be due to school / Head waiting for further information. Now the Head has been in school for almost a year, the annual diary can be circulated in September, which will enable parents to have better notice periods.</p>
<p>Can gates be opened on time? Occasions when parents waiting beyond pick up/drop off time</p>	<p>This has been fed back to staff and is being monitored. Later openings in the Spring and early Summer terms were due to relocating the Year 1 children safely to their collection area. Now the children are back in class, this is less problematic.</p>
<p>Send term 'plan' as an email as well + put on Google Classroom + website class page</p>	<p>It is important that we are focused on providing first quality teaching to the children and that parents are fully informed. From Spring 2022, parents received a curricular flyer (which is available on the website). The new curriculum will be in place from September 2022 and the relevant documents will be available on the website and google classroom. Ensuring that parents are fully involved with learning is a priority for us. We are launching in Summer 2, Curriculum Visions which, is an extensive interactive book resource for the wider curriculum.</p>
<p>Good to include email address on class pages – School web page</p>	<p>We are currently in the process of reviewing the school website. This is something we can include on the class pages. Action – Mr Steel to add class email addresses to school website</p>

Some parents/carers don't have access to twitter or some days the internet – could another platform be used?	Going forward, the plan is to embed the Twitter feed on the school website which will support those parents who do not have access to twitter. Wifi connectivity is down to individual providers and even Howe Dell has connectivity barriers!
Some parent do not like having to access emails for information, such as newsletters – could parents receive paper copies?	As an Eco school, we are always looking to reduce the use of paper. We currently do not offer paper copies however if a family does not have access to the internet/data or have no other means of accessing then they need to contact the office.
Some parents like paper copies of homework	EYs have home learning Bingo, which is via Tapestry, and home learning is set via Google Classroom. From September, we shall be using Curriculum Vision for pre / post learning so paper copies will not be necessary. Thanks to the DfE, we have a bank of notebooks that are provided to children who are without a device at home. If you require a device, let us know and we shall see what we can do!
Clear staff structure on the website	Current website is very difficult to navigate. The staff list is now at the top of the section however, this will look very different on the new website. Plan is to have photos of staff and a little bio as it is important for parents to know who is working with their children.