



News on the Ninth

Gusford Celebration Newsletter – Issue 62 – 19th December 2014

Inspirational Memories

This term has seen the introduction of 'Star Trekking' stickers when a member of the headship team spot great workers or those setting a good example. There have been some tremendous examples like Madison from Y6 helping an infant child who had fallen over, Jenesse and Callum from Y5 with great focused partner work in literacy, Rafferty in Y3 putting in effort at home and school on his handwriting and Mason in Y5 focusing on and improving his maths and producing work that showed he's grasped it. As you read News on the Ninth you will see more great examples of work and children putting their skills into action. We hope you enjoy reading all about their achievements this month. Have a wonderful Christmas break and see you on January 6th.

Mr Tapscott

Foundation Christmas Assembly



Last week it was the Foundation Stage Christmas Assembly. We were delighted at the large number of families and friends that were able to attend. The children made us all feel very proud with their fantastic singing, acting and dancing

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Parentview

By the time you get to the end of this edition of News on the Ninth I am sure it will remind you of all of the good things that go on at Gusford. Children in our recent curriculum survey commented overwhelmingly on how they enjoy the new curriculum and the things that they do at Gusford. One way that we can celebrate that is to complete a short survey on Parentview. This is Ofsted's way of gauging how parents feel about Gusford. Ofsted arrive with very little notice now and so this is their way of gauging parents' views. Please visit parentview.ofsted.gov.uk and register your view on how Gusford is doing. It will really help the school.



Inspiration

KS1 Christmas Show



In a school not very different from our one a Christmas tree was bare and unnoticed. The caretaker decided to remind the children of the story of Christmas by making baubles telling us about the Nativity. This was the basis of our production which the children worked really hard on. We would like to congratulate the marvellous actors and parents who spent many hours rehearsing their lines. Year 1 dazzled us with their dynamic dancing and left a smile on everyone's face. The many hours practicing our songs was evident in the amazing singing during each show. Thank you to all who made this production the success it was.



Inspiration

Reindeer Run



This week has seen the School Council organise a reindeer run, where people can don their antlers and run as reindeers to raise money for St Elizabeth's Hospice. You can see from the photos that the children had a great time running with or without their antlers. We have raised over £200 so far and we will update you after the Christmas holiday.



Daisy Mann and India Rolerkite went carol singing and raised £30 for St Elizabeth Hospice to contribute towards the Reindeer Run total for the hospice charity.



Inspiration

Y6 Scary Writing

Some of Y6 took part in a writing challenge; 'Who can scare Y4 the most?' They had to write chapter two of a story. By building tension - our 6 winners within the group went to Ms Hughes' Y4 Literacy group for them to judge as most scary. Jayla's was voted the scariest!

After going through the tiny gap there were four passage ways – north, east, south and west.

South

Lin went south and into danger. There was a maze. He started going through the dark, misty maze. The maze had blood on the floor. Lin started going left and right. He started banging into things. He finally got to the end of the maze. But there was no exit and out of nowhere he fell through a chasm and he was trapped in a cage. Lin started going left and right. He heard a noise then he heard it again and again. He felt that he wasn't alone. Then he heard it. He felt some air go past. Left and right he kept going. He sprinted. He got faster and faster then out of nowhere ...there was a blood stain on the wall. He got frightened, the gloom hid where he was. There was a small passage. The boy was walking into complete darkness. He heard a sinister scream. Lin was terrified. He kept on walking then he saw four doors. One was Thorn, the others Elm, Oak and Ash. Which door should he go through?

Mason Cracknell

South

Lin headed south. Suddenly Lin approached a dark, gloomy cave with wet, damp walls and a sand-like floor. Soon, as his eyes adjusted to the dark, the wall was dripping with bright, red blood and the floor was pulling his small lanky legs into the sand while he was panicking with fear. Unexpectedly Lin found the wall overheating and he felt the walls closing in on him, struggling to breathe. Meanwhile, the sand was pulling him in - he felt some kind of super strength coming along, so he stayed calm so he could pull himself out of the sucking sand. But he could not do it. So he pushed the wall to make it crack with his super strength. Without warning the gigantic wall exploded into tiny mini pieces. Then Lin saw them! The four doors of Oak, Ash, Elm and Thorn. Which one would he take?

Daniel Sharland

West

As the snowy day became night Lin had just come to the first door in the middle of nowhere. He opened it. On the other side he saw the thing. He couldn't ever put it into words. The room was empty, only a broom, some paintings and another door. Something dripped off the ceiling. He was truly terrified. Lin wanted to taste what it was. But it was purple and did not look healthy. He was shivering out of his boots, the room was shaking and suddenly he fell down a basement.

Lin focused on how to get out of the room. He had become confused - the painting, which had his tribe symbol on it, was in the basement. He never even thought to go where the thing was. He was still speechless. It was slithering and hissing at him. He needed to copy what the symbol was and he did the dance. Without warning a broom appeared and swept up a magic basement. He went underground and came up to four doors. Which one should he choose? Oak, Ash, Elm or Thorn?

Taylor Nevans

East

Lin moved through the torrential snow, walking through the dead bodies of the lost lives of soldiers. He thought he would become one. Lin felt the blast of the blizzard pushing him back. His legs were tired like a cheetah after a big hunt. Moreover his hands were swollen. He would not give up. At that moment he saw a flying figure. He tried to ignore it but could not help looking. From a few metres away he saw a figure crash. The young boy rushed to help. Unfortunately, the hooded figure disappeared. Where did it go? Suddenly Lin saw the dark soul drop a small object. Lin picked it up; it was a large, sharp tool. He realised it was a sword but not just any sword – this was a fine sword.

When he looked up he saw the hooded figure heading North. Lin followed until he came to four miniature cottages with four doors: oak, ash, elm and thorn. Not knowing which way to go he trusted his instinct and picked 'ash. Would it be the right choice? Before he entered he noticed a sign on the door which said, "Beware of the **βπΔ**." Lin scratched his head then realised it was old English – beware of the 'Ice Demon'. Lin took a deep breath and ventured in.

Isaac Challen



Inspiration

North

Lin found himself in a house. He edged nervously inside – he was terrified. He could hear screams and something was dripping from the roof.

Lin's heart missed a beat; he could hear something or someone. Anxiously he carried on. Sweat pouring. Hands shook. Lin edged nervously towards the 'Narrow North' path. Then he heard a cackle. Suddenly he noticed blood prints all over the wall. Quickly he ran to get help but there was no way out!

Apprehensively, Lin tiptoed up the stairs. It grew colder and colder as he got higher and higher. Then he saw something. What was it? A group of them. Suddenly they were attacking Lin but he killed each one with his weapon. Then he started to sprint until he reached four doors: Oak, Ash, Elm, Thorn.

Which one should he choose?

Laine Bryant

East

Lin headed east; it was extremely dark and then, at that moment, a flash of light appeared and in front of him he saw a chamber. He headed for it. Without notice it poured with rain. It thundered and he saw a flash of lightning. Lin was getting cold. He tried to get in the chamber but then on the floor he saw a riddle. It read '*Down below under your feet hard and horrible there lies the key.*' Lin looked under his feet. He grabbed the key and at that moment he noticed a bloody hand print on the key handle and from out of the corner of his eye he discovered a body buried in the leaves... He was traumatised. He felt sick. The chamber door was covered in cobwebs and all sorts of creepy crawlies. He was scared to go into the chamber. Lin was horrified but he stabbed the key into the keyhole, twisted it and shoved the door out of the way.

The chamber was dark, cold and dusty. Lin took a deep breath and continued. In a split second he heard a scream and a bang! He thought that he wasn't the only one there. Sweat poured from his head and hands like a water fall. He heard the bang again. He dashed upstairs to a dark, gloomy room. He said to himself "What was it?" Unfortunately, the figure disappeared into the dark night. As Lin turned around there stood four doors: Oak, Ash, Elm and Thorn.

Which one should he take?

Jayla Moss



Mrs Smith's Literacy Set also have been writing a multiple pathway story as groups where the reader chooses where the story goes next. They also went down to Year 4 to read it to them and they judged their suspense and tension

Chapter 3 – North.

As Malu reads the tattered scroll he sees something out of the corner of his eye; it looked like a sign. "Oh well who cares about whatever that is," He thought. "I need to read this."

"You have a mission Malu!" it says. How does it know Malu's name? Malu's stomach turns.

"You Malu are perfect for this mission; perfect size, perfect age, just perfect. You must find a key buried in the depths of the ocean..."

"The OCEAN! No way I'm doing this now!" shouts Malu.

"No way nooooooo Way!" Malu looks up, "Go on Malu!" He reads a sign. "Ok!" Malu cries "I'll do it!" and then he jumps in...

Can't breathe! Can't breathe! Malu fights the water to get to the surface. His heart races, he's going to drown. Droooooowwwwwnnn .Wait deep breaths... I can breathe! Underwater! "How does that work?" Malu thinks perplexed. "I might as well start to search for this key" Malu considers. Ahead in the distance as a blurry dot lays a cavern guarded by creatures. Odd creatures. Malu obediently wades up to the cavern. Then ahead of him, ahead of his mind, ahead of his life he saw the creatures were not any kind of creatures they were in fact:

SHURTLES!



Inspiration

What tactic did he use to get past?
Jokes? . . . Kill? . . . Barge? . . . Trick? . . .

By Megan Eccles (6S)

Chapter 2-north

You chose North. After taking ten big steps. He fell. He saw it. His worst nightmare just came true. Taking slow paces. It came. Shadows everywhere. Boulders even quicker than light raced before Malus eyes. A tear went down his cold dead face, Knowing he is going to die. The wind blew Malus tear away as more tears dropped down. Tip Toe. Tip Toe. Malu heard footsteps Knowing there is somebody else with him...

Getting fed up with just standing about, Malu ran as quick as he could. His heart was beating out of his chest. Believing he is going to find a person he reached a dead end. He just realised he was in a maze!!! Racing around not trying to touch the boulders, he found a passage way. Entering it he found a note. He read "You must kill the 3 headed dog before the clock turns 12." Out of nowhere a clock appeared, it said 10. Malu thought to himself lets do this. Reaching his sward out of his afro he turned left and crept slowly. He found it . Eyes red as blood. Fur as dark as night. Hissing loud. It attacked. Running quickly, Malu raced to the clock. It said 11. Malu ran back. Sward through the body. Blood poured. Hand shivering. Malu slowly put his hand in the body and got the heart. Still beating a hole appeared in the clock. Just about to turn 12 he put the heart in the hole. Just in time. Four doors appeared. Do you choose the oak, ash ,elm or thorn door?

By Eloise Evans (6S)

Chapter 3-Ash

Malu chose the Ash bird. She took the key out of her pocket and unlocked the dark Ash door. The bird cautiously came out. "Whistle whistle," Malu had a secret that she could talk to animals. "It's ok you can come out," the bird finally came out of its cage and stepped onto Malus arm. "Lets go find some...INSTRUMENTS!" the bird tweeted with glee. Malu plodded onwards with her new companion; the bird. As the dynamic duo walked down the pebbly, gloomy road they saw a beautiful plant with an array of greens and pinks; it also looks like a huge claw on a digger. And then suddenly...SNAP! The giant monster plant ate the bird. Malu looked around for something to hit it with. "Ah ha!" she had just found a stick to hit it

with. "Ya ya ya spit my bird out you beast." Finally the plant spat it out. "Whoa I've never hit anything before." Malus eyes started to flash blood red as she saw the plant dying a slow painful death. She ran away with fear. After running away from the plant Malu heard a noise. She turned like lightning. "Who goes there? Show yourself."

Emilia Swann 6S

Y5 DT - Cooking an omelette



Our DT project was to make an omelette. First if you have long hair, tie it up. Secondly wash your hands. Next, patiently wait for your turn. Carefully crack the egg into the bowl and make sure there is no shell in it. Beat the egg. Slice the ham with a knife - make sure you don't cut yourself. Then tip the ham into the bowl. After that get a spoonful of cheese and pour into the bowl. Afterwards, stir the egg, ham and cheese together. Then move along to the oven and add the mixture into the frying pan. Watch your omelette cook, the heat makes it turn from a liquid into a solid. Take the omelette out of the frying pan and put it on a plate. Next eat your omelette and wash your hands.

We really enjoyed working with each other. The omelette was really yummy! It was mouth watering and so warm. I really enjoyed making the omelette because I have never cracked an egg into a bowl without any shell going in to it. Also, we have never cut ham with a sharp knife and never made an omelette. We would recommend another person to do this!

Caitlyn and Holly 5F



Inspiration

5MW Curriculum Review

DT in 5MW - By Harry Ward

We have been making omelettes. It was brilliant and tasty. We got to choose two ingredients.

1. Wash your hands.
2. Get a shiny pan and crack an egg in it.
3. We then put our two ingredients in and gave it a stir.
4. Put the omelette onto the cooker and wait for it to turn solid.
5. Get a spatula and pick it up carefully and put it on a plate.
6. Enjoy your omelette.

The omelette cannot be turned back into a egg. It is irreversible.



Health and Safety

Be careful with the knives.
Try not to burn yourself.

Music in 5MW - By Freya Pirie

In Year 5 in music we have been learning about chords, pitch, rounds, unisons, calypso and beats. We have been singing a song, then learning the background music and playing the music through as a unison which is where you sing a song all together. After we got the hang of singing it all together we would sing it as a round and have no music so it was easier to get the beat. A round is when people come into the song at different entry points and end the song at different times. Then we would add music and sing it all together.

I loved this term of music because we got to play instruments and have fun. The whole class all got a go at playing the xylophone and glockenspiel. Over all I, and the whole class, enjoyed this term of music.

Especially with Mrs Ward with her dancing!

RE in 5MW - By Jenesse Mallott

This term I have been interested in RE, how Sikhs worship their god and how they respect others. For example they clean the toilet, wash the dishes, children give out napkins to all kinds of people, people take out the rubbish, clean people's shoes, stand outside and give out cool drinks while it is hot outside. Then we have been learning the Code of Conduct. Here are some:

- dress simply.
- work hard and be honest.
- don't be greedy.
- doesn't matter what skin colour or gender you are.
- don't be ungrateful.
- don't be big headed.
- women are as equal as men.



KS1 Remembrance Day



In KS1, we have been learning about Remembrance Day and its special significance this year because of the 100th anniversary since the start of World War I.



We have completed lots of activities including making poppies, finding out stories from WWI and writing some acrostic poems. We also held a special assembly on the 11th November and learnt how jelly babies were first made in 1918 to celebrate the end of the war and were originally called peace babies.

We also wrote some acrostic poems:

Powerful soldiers fighting
Our war was sad
Poppies grow for us
Poppies help us remember
Yay we have finished the war
By Joseph Mills

Pray, pray praying for luck to end war
Our soldiers hearts are kind and brave
Poppies remind us of this dreadful war
People sadly died but let's agree
Yes they did it for all of us

By Jessamy Lloyd

Bikeability



During the days of Monday 1st and Tuesday the 2nd of December, 12 pupils from Gusford took part in a cycling proficiency. We all enjoyed taking part, especially on the roads. We did several playground activities and then we all went out on the roads close to our school. Some of the most exciting things that we did in Bikeability were passing parked vehicles and other objects that may block the roads. We also learnt the positions and rules on the roads for cyclists and cars.

I enjoyed when we were on the roads learning how to turn in and out of junctions; also when we were learning how to do U turns and when we did the course which was doing all things that we had learnt.

By Charlotte Edwards and Aimee Parry (Year 6)



Inspiration

Y3 Persuasive Writing & Adverts

Year 3 have been looking at persuasive writing over the last couple of weeks.

Mrs Gray and Mrs Millin's Year 3 literacy group has some examples below of the excellent work they have produced aimed at persuading people to visit attractions at their Winter Wonderland.

Come and visit our brilliant sleigh ride. Imagine you're sliding through a snow covered mountain. Picture yourself sliding with leaping reindeer down the gleaming, snowy, icy hills. Imagine snuggling up in a comfy blanket, sliding with elves that give you presents. The glistening sleigh skids to Santa's grotto.

Barney Walker

Do you like to bake? Mrs Claus is waiting for you. In Mrs Claus' bakery you can bake delicious gingerbread men. You can design a new house for Mrs Claus. Mrs Claus needs your help to bake a fantastic mince pie for Santa Claus when he comes home.

Ben Kennell

Picture yourself on Santa's magical sleigh ride in a snuggly coat. You can ride through the fresh snow in the freezing forest. Santa's amazing snowflake sleigh has eight shimmering lights to guide you. Eight magical reindeer will pull you along the white snow.

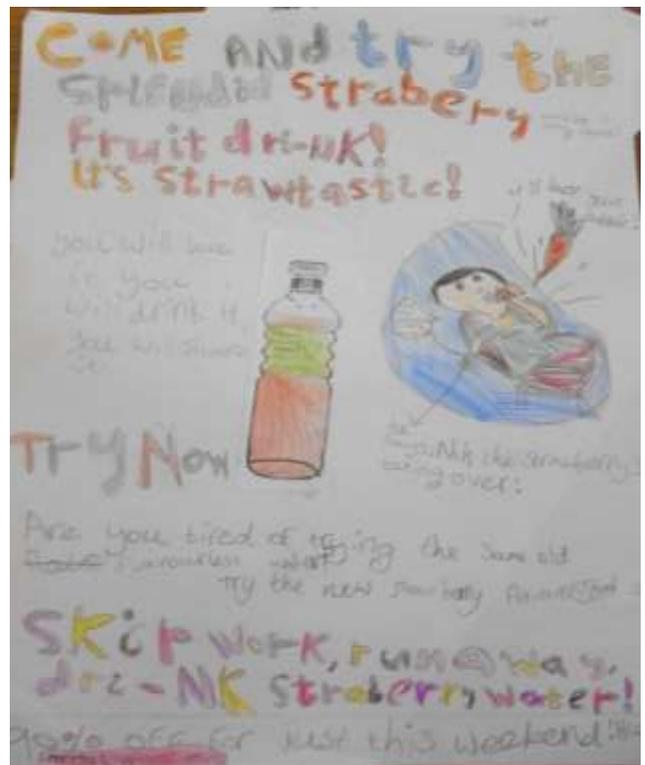
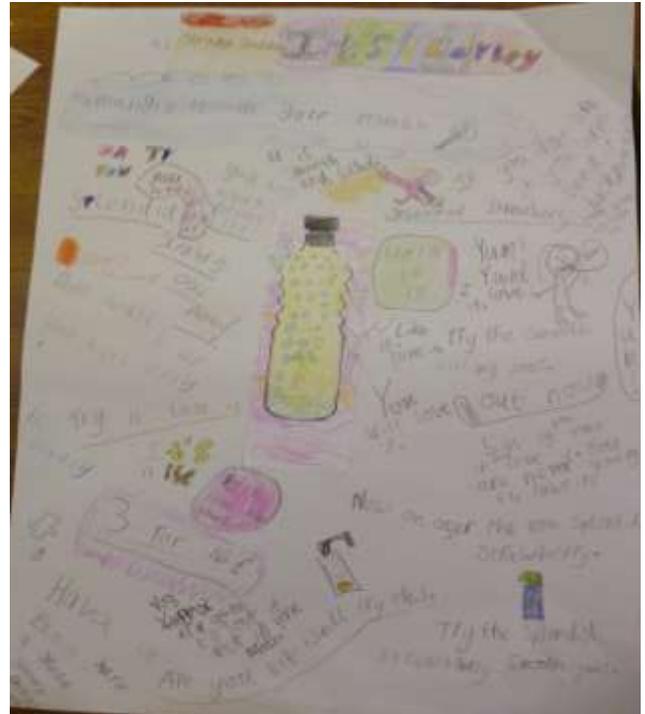
Laurelle Edwards

Come and visit our amazing sleigh ride. Imagine yourself snuggled underneath a fluffy blanket, warm blanket zooming through the soft, white snow. See snow on top of the shiny brown trees in the magical forest. As you zoom through the magical forest you will see people sledging down the glittery, sparkling mountains.

Kiah Neasham

Miss Soames' group has compared adverts and looked at how they have used different persuasive techniques. On Friday, Alan Sugar's 'nephew' made a special video for 3S literacy group and he set us an exciting Apprentice-style challenge. We were asked to create an advert to promote his new fruit-flavoured drinks. The challenge was to use as many persuasive techniques as possible in our adverts.

Can you spot any wordplay, appealing adjectives, price offers or slogans in the following winning entries?





Collaboration

Paired Classes



Throughout the school we have paired classes. 6H and 'The Badgers' met up recently to share what they have been doing in their history topic. The challenge was to sort some key inventions into, what the children considered to be, their order of importance. The children shared their views and listened to the different opinions which they had. Some of the inventions included: the wheel, the light bulb, the Internet, the nail and penicillin. Which order would you put them in?



KS1 Christmas Workshop



Christmas has well and truly arrived in KS1. Following our Christmas Production we were delighted that so many parents and family members attended our Christmas Workshop. We used a range of techniques from potato printing to construction to create some glittery and sparkly Christmas items transforming our classrooms into our own version of Santa's grotto. The children created baubles, wrapping paper, 3D Christmas Trees, Christmas cards, a movable Santa and reindeer and a snowflake scene. We all had tremendous fun and many adults admitted that they loved having an excuse to do some finger painting again. The results were amazing and I know many of your homes will now be adorned with these masterpieces!

The Year 1 & 2 staff would like to say a big 'Thank You' to all parents, carers and grandparents who were able to attend and look forward to seeing you again! Merry Christmas!



Y5 Traditional fantasy tale

Mogora and the Woth by Mia Robinson 5S

Delightedly, in the Kingdom of White, the passionate, dear Queen and friendly, caring King had an adorable baby girl as sweet as sugar. They named her Mogora. But the King's vile, villainous brother grew jealous of his power and sent the King and Queen to have their last breath with the deadly Woth.

On a miserable rainy day Mogora's horrid Uncle, Uncle Scott, told Mogora "You should be stronger now you're 16, but all I see is a puny little girl!"

"I'm not a puny little girl!" replied Mogora.

"Oh, so you think so. If you think you're strong, prove it by going into the black forest and kill the monstrous Woth!" shouted Uncle Scott.

"But it's strictly forbidden for a 16 year old girl to go in there!" worried Mogora.

"Are you my working slave or my powerful rule maker? Do as you're told!!" screamed Scott aggressively kicking her, with his golden leather boot, out and locking the rusty crooked doors behind her.

Mogora tried to walk in another direction but did not know the guards were behind her and got lead in the wrong direction and ended up facing the deep dark forest.

As the sharp wind blew her midnight black hair, she took her first horrid step into the darkness. Hearing the sound of leaves scattering and the sound of trees rubbing their brown hands against the rough hardness of their faces, she whipped her head around for a while deciding on which path to take. Mogora could smell the sawdust from the tree cutting. All her gleaming brown eyes could see was the dark browns of the trees and leaves. Mogora had not been given any weapons to slay the monster, so she picked up a sharp sickle and pointed it around wherever she looked. She treaded slowly along the path, her heart beating as fast as a cheetah running, her mind switching ways to kill the monster. But then she noticed something. She did not know what the creature looked like. What if her plans failed? What if she died? What would happen to her? All these questions swept through her mind like a witch on her broomstick. But with a crunch of leaves all those questions vanished. She realised she was not alone.

Mogora slowly turned around and there before her was the Woth. The dark brown chocolate fur of the Woth was as stiff as an oak door. His sharp yellow fangs hung out of his mouth like a sloth. He had brown, mouldy wings that spread out extremely wide and claws as sharp as a dagger.

Mogora was petrified. She pointed her stick at the creature edging back every second. Her mind couldn't decide what to do. As quick as a flash, she stabbed his huge paws with the sharp stick and as he hopped around she ran away. What was she to do?

As she ran away, she came across two dead bodies lying next to one another. Mogora seemed to remember them but where from? Then, seeing a symbol on the man's body made her give a tear of happy memories that dropped on the dark ground, like her parents years ago when they got attacked by the Woth. With a shock, she realised they were her parents. Her Dad's long red cape was flooded with blood. Her Mum looked exactly like her. The screech of the Woth meant it was close and soon before her was the beast. She looked at her parents and felt so angry that she somehow found an inner power. As she screamed, out of her hands came a blue light which made the Woth melt, turn into a moth and a separate wolf and both animals ran away.

At that moment she heard a voice "Mogora, is that you?" As her heart thudded, she turned around and screamed with happiness as her parents had awoken.

"Mum! Dad!" Mogora replied, "Is that you?"

"Yes it is. Thank goodness you're ok!" said her Mum, Molora, "Your Uncle has got to pay for this! Put him in the dungeon for eternity!"

The reunited family walked happily home together. As for Uncle Scott, he hated it in the dungeon. Gondalf, Mogora's Dad, got his job as King back and Mogora had what she always wanted – a family.

by Mia Robinson 5S



Collaboration

Parent Council meeting - 4th December 2014

The 4th parent council meeting reviewed our actions from the last meeting.

Parentmail Parents fed back that the class or group names was now appearing on texts which was helpful
New website The parent council reviewed the format, agreed it had a crisp look and was helpful for finding things

New topics discussed this meeting were

How are we doing?

Parents reported that there was some confusion on the sharing afternoon regarding some parents queueing in the wrong place (Junior line) rather than going straight to infant classes. Some were unclear on timings of the different phases when you had an infant and junior child. Parents asked for more clarity beforehand.

School Reports

Mrs Urquhart visited to discuss with parents their view on the school reports so that we make them as useful as possible. Parents reported that the end of year reports are useful. They like the separate attainment and effort grades as this praises the less academic pupils that are trying hard. They also like the breakdown of different subjects, but there is possibly too much detail for each subject, so would less detail make it easier to read? Parents liked the graphs that they were given at parents' evening and asked whether these graphs could be part of the report?

The government has directed that the way that children are assessed will be changing at the end of the year so pupils will no longer be given levels as in the past. Parents would still like to have a standard measure of progress or a scale so they know where their children are. They would also like to have a target for where they need to be. They would like to know where their child is for their age, what their strengths and weaknesses are and what the aim is for the next level.

Parents felt that the information given at parents' evening was good. The Year 2 printout information was more comprehensive than the Year 6 information. It would be good to have uniformity across the school. An explanation for the Reception information would have been useful. Reception parents feel they don't need as much information and would prefer a more pastoral type of report. They would like to know if their child is settled, enjoying school, communicating and making friends. A new percentile system will be introduced so parents will know how their child compares to other children.

AOB

School photos. A number of parents were unhappy about the quality of the photos this year. The school will follow this up with up with Bentley Photographic.

Next meeting: Thursday 29th January 2.00pm



Parentview

You've reached the end of this edition of News on the Ninth. Has it reminded you of all of the good things that go on at Gusford? How about celebrating what you value at Gusford by completing a short survey on Parentview? Please visit parentview.ofsted.gov.uk and register your view on how Gusford is doing. It will really help the school. Our aim is to achieve 100 entries by the start of next term. Can you help us meet that?