

St James' Church of England First School
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Acting Headteacher: Miss Joanne Hudson
Head of School: Mrs Kathryn Cousins

24 July 2018

Parent Council Agenda

Wednesday 11th July @ 2pm

1. Welcome and Apologies- JC sent apologies via email and raised a couple of discussion points
LK, DH and JH present in meeting

2. Minutes of the last meeting 22nd March

Sent to all present at previous meeting. Shared and agreed.

3. Traffic

Discussed in relation to an email sent via JC. Closure of the gate was not felt to directly impact parking, congestion and traffic speeds as Bramble Close is still used as a parking space and then requires parents and children to walk a couple of hundred metres in through the main school gates.

Congestion in the morning is eased by the 20minute drop-off window and parents are happy with this arrangement. As has been shared and agreed at previous meetings.

Speed with which some vehicles are travelling down Park Lane does remain an issue (not linked with the gate) and it is felt that from September the school council children should push forward with putting a case together to propose to the local council for calming measures such as a 20mph zone, lollipop person or flashing lights to highlight the schools presence.

4. Questionnaire

Parents were pleased with the overall feel of the questionnaire and noted that most areas scored positively.

There appeared to be 3 key areas which scored more negatively and these were the areas which we discussed in more detail:

Behaviour: Parents suggested we were more open with how we deal with behaviours and make it very clear that all behaviours will be dealt with in a timely and appropriate way. It was felt that children in KS2 needed stronger behavioural sanctions which prepared them for their middle school experiences more appropriately. We discussed positive behaviour rewards and it was felt by all that the Dojo system was possibly in need of a 'refresh'.

Home learning: It was felt that there is a minimum expectation from teachers that all home learning is acknowledgment marked as recognition for effort that has taken place. Consistency needs to be tightened up in school.

Communication: remains something which needs constant review and we can continue to discuss at next year's Parent Voice meetings- there are always new ways of communication and keeping channels open.

JH confirmed that all of these key issues were echoed in the staff and child's questionnaire and had been picked up during a whole staff meeting to discuss the surveys. A letter to all parents with an overview of the surveys will be sent shortly and measures are already being put in place to address some of the issues raised.

5. **AOB**

Mother and Father's day gifts- (point raised via email) A short discussion around the gift exchange decided that this was a matter for the FSJ to discuss further at their next meeting.

Gate- Bramble Close: parents present at the meeting felt the gate should remain closed however communications via email put across points which favoured the gate remaining open. To give closure to this issue we decided that the Bramble Close gate, which is completely obscured from the view of the school, would remain closed indefinitely from September. The parent volunteer who is currently opening/ closing in the afternoons will no longer be taking responsibility for the gate. After being discussed several times at various meeting, this has come down to headteacher's decision.

Close of meeting 2:45