

Parent Forum Issues Logged Jan - April 2018

Update/Comment June '18	Item No.	Relating to Years	Issue	Details
	65	Y10	Parents Eve & Other	Misc Feedback from LN & PC. Y10 Rep has shared info on Y10 FB page. (See item 40).
PF have asked school to publish this info on new school website.	64	Y8 & above	Careers Advice	Query over School's Career's Advice Policy. Parent states legal obligation to have one for Y8 & above. Have referred parent to Mr Apsey.
School are looking at solutions to enable use of iPads for Y 11s.	63	Y10	Y10 iPads	What is the plan for next years yr 11s to have ipads?
	62	WHOLE SCHOOL	Concern over Discipline/Standards	Concern raised over an incident of students kissing at school & possible implications. Referred Parent to speak directly to school.
Friends always welcome new parents who want to help with fundraising for School.	61	WHOLE SCHOOL	Friends	Concern over current situation with Friends. Consider how PF can maybe help? KC contacted Julia & Dan 6/3/18, JM emailed 9/3/18 confirming she will be stepping in as interim Chair for now.
	60	WHOLE SCHOOL	Visit to Convent	For a selection of parents. <i>We should be able to give me a selection of dates very soon...we are keen for you to see it too!</i>
Presentation from Caterers at PF Meeting 8/5. See report for details.	59	WHOLE SCHOOL	Food at Convent	Arrange parent taster Evening. <i>Edwards &amp; Ward are putting together dates to fit in with events at school that they can attend these will be publised. With no facilities on site they will not be full taster events but they will have information on the company and what they do and possible tasters.</i>
	58	SECONDARY	SMHW, Doodle & other Apps	Concern raised over efficiency & use of Apps. School currently reviewing all apps/programmes/licenses/tech.
	57	SECONDARY	Class Sanctions	Forum raised concerns with the employment of whole class punishments/sanctions utilised by some members of staff. GM to discuss with staff. Did this happen?
	56	PRIMARY	Primary Homework Working Party	Has this been formed? Previously discussed at PF meeting Oct '17. <i>Currently visiting other schools gathering examples to share with parents, only had 5 expressions of interest - maybe this could be a focus for future parent forum meeting?</i>
	55	SECONDARY	Girls toilets	Faulty locks & soap refilling. Site? Toilets generally? <i>Toilets checked week of 28.1.18 - no faulty locks, repaired if reported asap. Soap is refilled but pupils are removing the plungers again replaced etc when reported. Toilets are cleaned daily</i>
PF have asked school provide this for each year group in the first half of the Autumn term.	54	SECONDARY	Info for each year group before Sep 18	To include trips, P.Evenings events e.g. work exp, anything else relevant. Minutes7.2. <i>JC very keen to see this too; have already discussed with Head of Secondary</i>
Too late. Review after Sep photos done.	53	WHOLE SCHOOL	School photos	Consider changing supplier again? Minutes 9.4. Possibly ask parents for recommendations? Is it worth asking parents for recommendations for next year or not? <i>May be too late for September as days get booked up very early. Would need suggestions by end of February but cannot promise we can change.</i>
	52	PRIMARY	Christian Union Club in Primary	Concern regarding provision of a religious club without parents' awareness. <i>Letter gone out to all parents whose children expressed an interest asking permission.</i>
	51	WHOLE SCHOOL	PF page on school website (interim)	Add list of Parent Forum Names (as pdf). Add spreadsheet log. Upload Minutes from Nov & Agenda & report from Feb meeting. KC/JC to action
PF have asked school to publish this info on new school website.	50	SECONDARY	PE Ambassadors	Request more info to be publicised about this please.
Parents are doing regular sweeps for Lost Property at both sites.	49	SECONDARY	Lost Property	Clarify process. PF still to come in & do regular sweeps? Any feedback from staff about us doing this? Would they prefer us not to? Primary & Secondary. (Items to be emailed out as well as put on schoolgate). <i>We are very happy and grateful with PF doing this. As far as the school is aware this was an ongoing process and we are just waiting for the next visit to be arranged.</i>
New website likely to be launched September '18	48	WHOLE SCHOOL	New School Website	KC to update PF launch Sep 2018. School to announce to all parents. <i>The website will be launched (a soft launch) prior to September. Next meeting on 5th February so an update on timescales will be available then. Following this meeting information will be sent out to parents.</i>
iPads are being rebooted on new system in order to provide school with better monitoring & access to tablets & to improve integrated learning.	47	SECONDARY	iPads	We would like a copy of the terms & conditions of the agreement that we have for ipads (these are different from year to year I think). To include, dates of start & end of agreement, type of agreement. Additionally we would like more information regarding the support & repairs procedure incl. what happens during hols. School have been asked for an idea of iPad usage. They were going to ask student e-safety committee. Could we also get feedback from teachers or heads of departments as to how much they use it for teaching other than research. Minutes from 13th June say GM has requested info from HoDs. Clarification required for rules re downloading games.
Info sent out to all parents April regarding WAC & details of new provider.	46	WHOLE SCHOOL	Wrap Around Care	There was a suggestion that WAC may not be available at the new site as not enough demand/too expensive to run administer and staff. They mentioned it might be that an outside childcare service provides the care instead at a more commercial cost. Any fundamental changes to this would need to be communicated before start of school holidays. Opportunity for school to better promote that childcare vouchers can be used to pay for WAC as this would benefit a lot of parents and some not aware this. <i>WAC will be run on the new site but it will be run by an external provider. Applications are in and the school is reviewing the quotes. A contract will be agreed prior to the Easter holidays and as soon as this is signed and sealed information will be sent to parents. WAC will be a commercial enterprise but child care vouchers will be able to be used.</i>
Carshare Evening held 7/6.	45	WHOLE SCHOOL	Travel Plan	Dates for bus stops to be in. Date for School/parent meeting for this? (Car Share website, Faxi not very good.) <i>(We promote this but it is only as good as the info the parents put in and if they use it. Perhaps PF could promote this.)</i>

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	43	WHOLE SCHOOL	Governors	More & Clearer info required about Governors & committees they serve on & contact details. Concern that there is no teacher governor. Could we have a contact email address added to existing website? <b>JC to feedback to COG, but new website will have a Governor page and an email address so that they can be contacted.</b>
	42	WHOLE SCHOOL	Private Music Lessons	Peripatetic Music Teacher info to be distributed so parents know what is available. One point of contact in office for this? Email from David Collins 9/3 saying Emma or Nicky in office can help with this. Can list of peri teachers & contact details be sent out to all parents please?
ParentPay now up & running.	41	WHOLE SCHOOL	Tucasi	Difficult to use. We particularly don't like the 35p charge, consider absorbing costs of new payment platform elsewhere. Are school still looking at replacements for Tucasi? Do we know when we can expect it to be replaced? <b>We are in the process of changing bank accounts and after this we are looking to move to a different payment system which will start in September. As soon as this is confirmed and we know the system the new catering company will be using we will be able to let parents know.</b>
	40	SECONDARY	Parents' Evening	Availability, allocation & timing of Slots. Timing of PE in the year (May too late for Y10) More notice given before PE. Yrs R,6,7,9 & 11 are considered particularly important for parents (Minutes 9.3). Secondary Reporting Pilot Scheme emailed by Mrs New on 2/2/18. <b>Agree about notice; slots will always be an issue for some subject/staff who teach more than one class. 25% of appointments made do not turn up or inform us too late to be able to reallocate. Any concerns then please contact a member of staff to get an update. Will pass on feedback re timings of Y10.</b>
	39	Primary	Progress Tracking	How are primary school tracking progress between KS1 and KS2? (given that gov are publishing this data alongside SATS results) & what is the school's response to the below average progress in writing bet KS1 and KS2 for last years year 6? No KS2 Results on 'Performance Measures' page of website. <b>SLT have responded to the results, all staff have received on-going training in the best approaches to teaching and planning writing both in house and from an external consultant. Links have been fostered with other schools for writing moderation to ensure we are performing at least in-line with national expectations. Changes in the approach to planning have changed the curriculum offer for writing with expectations being raised across the school, an external visit in January spoke of the positive impact and accelerated progress the school is making in this area and agreed or raised all judgements made to date. All children are tracked as individuals, classes, groups and at whole school level in all key subjects to ensure that we are monitoring progress in its current format. This is undertaken by using a tracking tool and adaptations to teaching or support for individual pupils is put in place as a result of this. An extension writing group for Year 2 and 6 writers has been set up this year. In hand</b>
	38	Secondary	GCSE Computer Science	Why was last year's pass rate 0% (with 7 students taking it)? What action is being taken to improve this, particularly since the ComSci teacher has just left? <b>New Teacher very aware of the problems last year. CW has no value in final exam but has to be completed as Exam Board aware of the issue across the country.</b>
	37	Secondary	Year 7 Admissions	"I wish to propose an amendment to the CFS year 7 intake policy which would align it with the in year process. In the (likely) event of year 7 being oversubscribed, after including siblings you move next to the waiting list for in year students entry with priority given to those on the list since their unsuccessful application at reception, before then moving on to the lottery." <b>Governors and Trustees would need to discuss this issue - will share with COG</b>
	36	Primary	Sex Education in Y6	Apparently this didn't happen at all last year, what is the plan for this year? It would be useful to know how school deals with Sex Education throughout the Years from Primary through to Secondary. <b>This happens in the Summer term, communication will go out to parents before hand and we are happy to meet with parents to share resources. The focus in Year 6 is around puberty and changes that happen to the body.</b>
	35	Secondary	Lesson Legend Awards	Students don't usually know what they have received this for, email has no details only subject. <b>Teacher should have let the student know...they need to go back tho their teacher and ask!</b>
	34	Whole School	Breakfast club and WAC for Sep	Clarification required of situation in September & timely communication to parents (before end of summer term). <b>Absolutely, hopefully by end of Justice Term</b>
	33	Whole School	Charity Week Communications	In Marketing make clear who this applies to Primary/Secondary or All School. <b>Thank you for this reminder</b>
PF Email sent out to all parents 27/03/2018	32	Whole School	Publicise individual yr group FB pages	Would school publicise links to individual year fb pages please? The more people can communicate between themselves the less traffic to school & Forum. (Make clear parent led not school). Currently Y10 page only has 20 members! <b>JC needs to understand this so she can work with Karie Wright in the School Office to publicise correctly. KC to collate info to pass to JC</b>
	30	Whole School	Building Works at Convent	Will the Carillion collapse affect Farrans and the build of our school? E.g. are Farran's picking up other contracts? <b>Carillion has no effect on the School build programme.</b>
Tracksuit bottoms will be available via School Colours from next term.	29	Secondary	PE Kit	Request for hoodies &/or tracksuits for seniors. <b>Mr Day has ordered some samples - JC now has them in her office.</b>
Feedback from Mr Day: No such thing as left handed hockey sticks, lefties just play slightly differently.	28	Secondary	Left handed Hockey Sticks	Could school (or Friends?) provide some left handed hockey sticks please? <b>Could Parent Forum ask Friends? KC emailed Friends 5/2/18</b>

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PF have asked school to publish this info on new school website.	27	Secondary	DofE	Update required of who can access DoFE & how. Process & Communications to be clarified. Ask Mr Apsey if any DOE queries
Not possible as School do not hold this info. Parents should take screenshots of SMHW for backup.	26	Secondary	Timetables	Timetables now on SMHW - great. Can parents get a backup electronic copy of whole 2 week timetable please that can be printed out & who do we contact for this? Will ask David Collins as to the easiest way to do this. Ms Dolan may have a suggestion too.
	25	Secondary	Recycling	Lack of recycling facilities @ Vinnetrow Rd. Not practical to change. There will be better recycling at convent. We do do some recycling but it is not viable to change our contract for the short time we are on the VBP site. We will have full recycling facilities at the convent.
	24	R/2	Wet Weather	We (R) had to buy a spare wet weather kit to keep at school ( wellies , coat etc) but as far as I'm aware the children have never worn this. Can this be clarified as to why they are not asked/ told to put this on when it's raining etc and they go out. On Wednesday one of the girls (Y2) came back very wet to the point of being cold all night? Primary SLT have followed up with staff as pupils should be wearing this during the lunch break if it is wet, not all pupils are sent in with appropriate outdoor clothing. Many are still not coming in with an outdoor coat.
	23	R	Learning Resources	Request for parents to be directed towards learning resources to help support their children, particularly to understand new teaching styles, e.g. phonics, maths etc. Phonics workshop planned for parents in Year 1 (Reception has already happened) as in previous years, new website will include a section with resources to support at home.
	22	R	Too high expectations of v young children	Some are still only 4 and at times needs guidance reminding etc. I think perhaps reception need to be a bit more lenient on the children and not so harsh to expect them to do things that are expected in other years. We are currently working alongside an outstanding Infant School that is part of a teaching alliance to raise standards and improve the offer for our pupils, so it is in line with other schools demonstrating best practice. Point noted.
	21	R	TAs being used instead of teachers	Are TAs teaching on their own when teachers are away? (Mr Cook's class for a whole week). Could school clarify legalities of this please? Raised by several parents. Several LSA's within Primary are qualified to take classes ( 3 hold QTS and 4 hold HLTA status), we feel that it is better for the children to use familiar adults who know how the school works and have been part of the team planning as assessment procedures as this ensures that children are not missing out on learning. If a suitable LSA is being used as a teacher we will always put additional LSA's into the class to keep the same adult to child ratio.
Info sent out to all parents April regarding childcare vouchers/subsidies.	20	Whole School	Childcare Vouchers	Request for school to better promote that childcare vouchers can be used to pay for WAC, this would benefit a lot of parents and some not aware this is possible and not detailed on website at all. This is not possible currently, plans for WAC for next year are currently being investigated and taking childcare vouchers is part of this process.
	19	Secondary	Girls Toilets by Sports Hall	Dirty & regularly do not have soap. Taken up with cleaners.
	18	Primary	Toilets	Heavy doors, lack of soap, dirty & wet. Heavy doors cannot be tackled, quality of cleaning was raised with the contractor last week during a review meeting and we have seen significant improvements this week. Toilets are cleaned nightly across Primary.
	17	Whole School	Communications	It's currently taking between 2-5 days, often the latter for parents to get any official responses from the office@ email. All comms to go out as emails not hard copies. Monitor. All comms to clearly state either year group, primary, secondary or whole school. Particularly relevant to Charity week events & activities. PF also to pass on to Friends. Some emails still not getting through, can give y7 example if necessary. Taking between 2-5 days, often the latter for parents to get any official responses from the office@ email. PF to gather sample emails for office to test. Raised with office staff, please communicate if no improvement is seen. In past has depended on the teacher and what they have requested, but agree this needs to be formalised and agree need to be clear in heading re audience etc etc This can be done in the subject line of the email. The Office have been asked to do this in secondary. GG will check with LH re Primary. Would need an example to be able to address this. If a parent contacts the school then we check we have the correct email address and resend. Automatic response message being reinstated on office@. Emails are forwarded to staff but no way of checking if those staff respond.
PF have asked school to publish this info on new school website.	16	Whole School	Uniform	Concern regarding quality of uniform (see separate data). Request for long sleeve PE top and long sleeve classroom t-shirt option for next year. Quality review particularly for polo shirts and school jumper. raised by R. Request for black trainers for PE. Previously denied due to damage to Gym floor. Can CFS Hoodies (as used by Primary) be offered to seniors as well please? Previous discussion about CFS tracksuits but it was considered to not be a viable option costwise. Although Mins from 16th Oct say samples ordered. ?? Request for short sleeve shirts for boys & clarification of PE kit for seniors including sock colours & cold weather wear. Confirmation of plain polo shirts being OK for primary Update on website. Senior Students to be consulted about tracksuits. Black trainers will not be able to be used at the convent in the sports hall so it would not be practical to change the policy on this. See Gay - meeting with supplier. We do not intend to have hoodies at Seniors, looking at track suits/tops ..we have samples to view Feedback to parents
	15	Primary	Clubs	What has happened to the clubs they don't appear to be on? Do they take place during the lunch hour? How do we know what clubs our children are doing? Clubs currently happen in the lunch hour for a 30 minute period either side of the children eating. A list of clubs went out in December and we can resend this to parents. These are proving very difficult for staff to manage, if it is wet and children are inside or if we have high levels of sickness we do unfortunately have to cancel clubs for the day due to lack of space or staff. Club offer for September is currently being planned and will have a wider offer at an appropriate time as we will not have to work around the restraints of most pupils leaving by coach - we currently doing the best we can with the constraints of the site and transport arrangements.
	14	5/All Primary	Lack of Sanitary Bins in Primary Toilets	Can this be addressed please? Currently 2 sanitary bins the the KS2 girls toilets, 1 in the disabled toilets and 3 in staff toilets.
Change to school day info sent out to all parents 29/3	13	4/whole school	Concern over possible changes to school hours	If this is going to happen, could we please have notice of this as early as possible? Of course, looking at various routines and arrangements at mo in light of transition to Convent site. There will be draft ideas being discussed next month.

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	12	2/AllPrimary	Kids getting bus	It seems that sometimes things to take home (Christmas jolly jars, spelling homework) get handed out at Bersted by the teacher but the bus children don't get the stuff. <b>Thank you for raising, this will be addressed with Primary staff.</b>
	11	11	DT New Teachers	Concern over advertising for a head of and a teacher starting April. Worried about continuity so close to GCSE's. Are we losing the current 2 teachers? <b>Looking for a new teacher in charge x 1 not x 2. Have interviewed but not appointed, readvertising.</b>
	10	11	2017 GCSE Results	Could we have a breakdown of last year's GCSE results by grades per subject please? <b>Yes, will ask Mrs New to send out</b>
	9	11	Geography GCSE Mocks	Comment raised about change of geography teacher in Year 11 not ideal at this late stage and concern about success at GCSE in summer 17. Worried about what is going on about field trip data. <b>Will speak to teacher leading GG.</b>
	8	8, 9, 10, 11	SMHW	Issue of behaviour points being given for missed homework that was not on Show my Homework or given out as a paper sheet and of children getting into trouble when they challenge it. <b>Do contact subject teacher if such a situation arises. We will remind staff to ensure ALL HW recorded on SMHW.</b>
PF have asked school to publish this info on new school website.	7	5	Spelling	Can the spellings for Year 5 be put on the newsletter please? <b>Spellings will be uploaded to the new website when it launches, the plan is to upload them in monthly blocks so that parents can see what is planned and always have spellings in good time.</b>
	6	4	Swimming	Not happy about the swimming/pe sessions - Confusion over days. Can we have clarification about when swimming will finish? Does this meet national curriculum? Will PE sessions be replacing swimming when it finishes? There was a session missed due to mix up between school & Leisure Centre, will this be made up? <b>Our swimming programme meets the requirements of the National Curriculum, not all pupils may reach the 25 metre goal if they begin as non-swimmers with us. The confusion with the pool was due to them switching dates to accommodate us and communication from them wasn't clear. The session missed was due to a pool closure, we will attempt to make this up if the pool has availability. PE will replace swimming when this ends, this will be an indoor PE session.</b>
	5	3	Communications	3 students from Miss Panah's class wrote a letter to Mr Hanna asking if he would authorise each class the chance to 'own' a bit of hallway to display their work or project of their choice and then be judged by Mr Hanna and his merry band who would then choose the best display and award the hardworking and lucky class a prize at the end of each term for the best display. They seem a little disappointed not to have received any reply and genuinely felt that it was something that would benefit the school and children as a whole. <b>Due to staff sickness, training Mr Hanna attended and wanting to get hold of the Convent plans to show the children, this feedback took just over a week to be given to the pupils. Mr Hanna has taken the 3 children, shown them plans for the school, discussed what they have proposed and shown photos of what we are planning for the coming months and once we move to the new site. The children met with Mr Hanna for 30 minutes and we given access to the plans and drawings for the new site.</b>
	4	2	Bus Monitoring	What monitoring is done in the sports hall before and after coach trips? One of the year two girls was 7 on Wednesday and got sweets for the class, but on Thursday after school "lots of older kids took my sweets even after I said no, and the other children just kept saying let them have them and they will do away". Did anyone witness this and do anything about it? <b>Supervision is carried out by our coach monitors, 8 staff are present. Unless an issue is reported to these staff or the school we may not be aware of it. Primary SLT will investigate this. We would always encourage sweets to be given out in class by the teacher and due to the range of allergies and parental views on eating sweets we would not encourage sweets to be handed out in school.</b>
	3	2	Lunch	How long do y2 have for lunch, some children are saying it's too quick and they don't have time to finish – is lunch shorter on club days? <b>Year 2 have 30 minutes to eat and 30 minutes to play. Lunch is not shortened on club days, they still have 30 minutes to eat and 30 minutes for clubs.</b>
	2	2	PE	It doesn't seem that PE happens on the days they should be either through just not doing it (why?) or some children's behaviour has stopped it happening if it's to do with the weather, then they have forest school outside why can't they have PE, or can it be done in the hall? <b>PE is timetabled with one session a week being delivered by Secondary PE specialist and one by the class teacher. In the event of extreme wet weather PE session may not be possible to deliver - we only have one indoor hall and this can only hold one class for PE. PE is delivered if it is light rain and conditions are safe for pupils to run around outside. Classes are not cancelled due to poor behaviour, if a class is not following instructions outside they may be brought in early to reinforce the rules of listening to all instructions. This is to ensure the safety of all pupils.</b>