

Parent Reps 29/11/19

Thank you to all the reps who attended the meeting and sent in comments.

Healthy Food

Cooking

We are reviewing our curriculum with the intention of ensuring that every class learns how to make a variety of healthy meals.

Hot Meals

Several classes raised comments about the school dinners and in particular how much processed food is used. Most of the food served is made from scratch in the kitchen at the infants, with a limited amount of processed food (even the pizzas are made from scratch).

This summer, Kingston will be re-tendering for the school food contract. We are concerned because sometimes the focus on value is at the expense of quality. We know we need to be part of a larger contract, especially as we are split site school and the food needs to be transported between sites. We will be exploring our options and will keep parent representatives updated as we do so.

Connect

We are reviewing the food provided at Connect. We want to provide food that children will enjoy but is also healthy.

Cake Sales

Several parents raised the unhealthy food at cake sales. The cake sales earn a lot of money, but it is modelling healthy eating. We are investigating ways of making it healthier, parents suggested including smaller slices and cakes and reducing the volume of icing and/or decoration and no multi-buy option. We will also look to ensure that all sales are spread out evenly across the year.

Discos

There will be no sweets at the PTA discos, instead children will get a gift.

Rewards

The school will ensure that sweets and biscuits are not used as rewards.

Environment

Recycling

We want a reduction in single use plastic and our eco-leaders will be doing a survey on how many children have a multi-use water bottle. We would like to encourage people to consider attractive water bottles as Christmas presents.

We are investigating our waste collection to ensure that more of our waste is recycled. We have been previously been told it is not possible by the contractor.

Cars

Parents raised concerns about other parents leaving their cars idling outside school. We will include a reminder in the bulletin.

Gardening

Children love gardening, but it is best done in small groups. Any parents who can, or know someone who could, volunteer to work with small groups of children can let the office know.

Christmas Busyness

Some parents raised the amount of events happening in the weeks leading up to Christmas. We are aware that Christmas Fair is a week later than normal, which adds to the list of events; this was due to the availability of key organisers. It will naturally be a busy time because it is a culmination of weeks of preparation through the term.

Juniors Changing for PE

It was agreed that children who have a sports club on their outdoor PE day could put their PE kit back in their classroom after their club, so they don't have to bring their school uniform and PE kit home, while wearing their sports club kit. We also welcomed the suggestion that children could wear tracksuit bottoms (navy/ black) and trainers to school on PE days to reduce the amount of changing in school.

Avoiding Germs

The school is reviewing the cleaning on both sites. The children will be reminded of the importance of washing hands in assembly next weeks.

Infant Playground

The infant playground is nearly finished, but there still issues with the drainage. Mr Brown is working very closely with the diocesan surveyor, who oversaw the work of the drains, to ensure that the work is finished to the highest possible standard.

Parentmail Booking

Following a parents query, parent reps agreed that 7 a.m. is the best time for bookings to open on Parentmail for parents' evening.

Selection for Sports Teams

Most sports competition require us to send our strongest team. The school will review how teams are selected.

Performance Opportunities

We will continue to look at the range of different opportunities for children to perform. We wish to be both sensitive to children's reservations and to encourage children to develop their confidence in performing and presenting.