

Parent Forum Report

1st November 2011

We had more attendees at last night's meeting than we have in quite a while. It was great to see so many new members as well as others who have decided to start attending again. A number of people said this was down to the leaflet handed out at the new parents meeting in September, so we know that our work to increase the profile of the Parents Forum is helping.

We are going to try and attend as many school events as possible so we can continue to tell other parents about the Forum. With so many new members, we did some introductions and found out what people hoped to get out of the Forum. It was really interesting to hear how many of us want to get involved and support the school, and hoped that this would be a Forum to allow us to do just that.

We covered a variety of issues in the meeting from the need for a more informative directory to enable parents to contact the right person when they want to get in touch, through to the bigger topics of responding to and marking pupils' work, and giving feedback on a guide for parents on 'Independent Learning'.

This provoked a very lively debate and everyone had useful comments to contribute. It's very clear this is a subject lots of parents have questions about Independent Learning and it will be great to have more information as to how we can support our boys with this. We are looking forward to the meeting on the 12th December which Mr England will be attending to discuss the issue of Independent Learning in more detail.

Mr Tomkins also talked us through a scheme called the 'Leading Parent Partnership Award (LPPA)'. This is an opportunity for the school to make some commitments to how it works in partnership with parents, and to develop effective engagement and communication approaches that will enable us to support our sons more effectively. We all felt we'd like to contribute to supporting this scheme in anyway we can through the Parents Forum.

We didn't get time to talk about the use of the school diaries but we will hopefully cover that topic at our next Parents Forum on the 12th December.