



Parent/Carer Forum

Wednesday 9th November 2016

Item	Summary
Parent/Carer Forum	<p>The Parent/Carer Forum will take place on the second Wednesday of each half term. All are welcome to attend.</p> <p><i>The next meeting will be held on: Wednesday 11th January 2017 5:30pm-6:30pm</i></p> <p>Parents/carers have asked that regular text reminders are sent out in advance of the meetings.</p>
Update on previous items	<p>Website and Social Media - Parents/carers thought that a Facebook page would also be of benefit. The school is still looking into this.</p> <p>Curriculum Matters – Parents/carers asked for an overview of the Examination Preparation for Year 11. This has been issued and a copy will be available on the website. The Key Assessment Booklet is almost complete and will be available on the website before the end of term along with the curriculum statements.</p> <p>Praise and Rewards – a new rewards system will be launched this term and is currently being consulted upon with pupils and staff.</p> <p>New Catering Arrangements - Mrs Gibson has spoken to the caterers about the possibility of holding an evening for current parents and carers to sample the new menu; they are looking into the logistics and costs of this and will get back to the school.</p>
Curriculum Matters	<p>Parents and carers yet again praised the revision schedule put in place for the Year 11 pupils and were able to share their experiences at the meeting of shaping the programme. The collapsed timetable was discussed as being a great success. Revision packs were favourably received as was the potential of having lunchtime revision sessions.</p> <p>An overview of the year for Examination Preparation was requested and Mrs Gibson explained this had been sent via SchooCal. Parents and carers asked that this also be put onto the website with other useful documents where it can easily be seen. Mrs Gibson will follow this up.</p> <p>Mrs Gibson also explained that the school would produce a booklet and run parent/carers sessions on How to Support your Child with Revision. Mrs Gibson also explained that the school had purchased GCSEPod to support revision. Parents and carers again requested that a link be placed on the website.</p> <p>Parents and Carers raised the fact that there appear to be great improvement in Science this academic year, but there are still concerns over historic learning. Mrs Gibson explained that there was a carefully scoped revision plan in place to address any issues with embedded learning.</p>
Career Pathways	<p>There was good discussion about the possible career pathways available to pupils from the school and across Hartlepool in general. Mrs Gibson stated that the school was committed to working with all partners to ensure appropriate career pathways for its pupils. Hartlepool FE College, Hartlepool 6th Form College and some local industries are keen to work with the school to ensure progression to FE, HE and apprenticeships stay high on the agenda. The school will promote all open evenings.</p>

New Day Shape	<p>There was some concern raised that the new day shape had not been entirely favourably received but that routines have now adapted and it appears not to be the issue first thought.</p> <p>Additionally it was raised that the new end to the school day means that pupils are coming home in the dark during the winter months; this was counteracted by the fact that the old day shape meant pupils came to school in the dark. All agreed there would be no perfect solution which would benefit all parents and carers and their children</p>
Home-School Communication	<p>Mrs Gibson informed parents and carers that the school would be launching ParentPay at the beginning of December and SchoolCal had already been rolled out. Parents and carers asked that a link be placed on the website along with instructions for use of SchoolCal. Mrs Gibson will arrange for this to happen.</p> <p>Parents and carers also wondered if there was any mileage in donating prom dresses and outfits. Mrs Gibson would look into this.</p>
New Catering Arrangements	<p>Parents and carers praised the new catering arrangements but stated that their children missed the Paninis and the chicken wraps. Mrs Gibson is looking into whether these can be put on the menu on special days such as Alternative Curriculum Day.</p>