



AVANTI COURT
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Headteacher Forum Minutes - Friday 7th February 2020

Ms Sahota apologised for Mrs. Walters absence and advised parents that she would be leading the Forum on her behalf.

Attendance

Parents advised that children who had achieved 100% attendance were very happy with the certificates they received and that they felt this was a very big achievement. Parents also advised they felt it was unfair for children who did not get the certificates if they were absent due to medical reasons. Ms. Sahota informed parents that the school understands that children become ill and stay at home to recuperate, however she requested parents to try and bring their children in as parents are allowed to come to school and provide medicine to their children. Medical appointments are authorised but recorded as an absence and so does impact on a pupil's attendance. Parents requested the school to make it clearer to them why attendance is important in terms of Ofsted inspections. The school has previously linked good attendance to academic achievement and Ofsted – please see Parentmail history for evidence of this.

Actions – continue delivering certificates for 100% attendance.

School Lunches

Parents advised that there had been an improvement in the quality of school dinners at the school, however they still think dinners are not up to the standards that it used to be. Ms Sahota advised parents to encourage their children to let the school know so that they could make more informed decisions regarding the lunches. Parents also requested more options for the salad as they believe there is not enough for the children especially if they do not eat what is there presently. Another parent also queried why the school only allowed ready salted crisps to which they were advised it was due to the school's ethos of not having onion or garlic in their food which is contained in other flavoured crisps in powder form.

Actions- Pupils to offer suggestions regarding the salad options that they would like the kitchen to serve

Mobile Phones

Ms Sahota advised parents that the school would be taking a firm stand on not allowing the use of mobile phones on the school premises. Signs will be displayed in reception advising parents of this.

Actions – A polite notice to be on display asking parents to refrain from using mobile phones.

Taxi

Ms Sahota advised parents that the school had sent out a Parentmail to all parents advising of the checks that need to be carried by parents to ensure the safety of their children in the event their children are dropped off or collected to and from school by a taxi / cab. This was sent as parents may be unaware of what needs to be in place to safeguard their child.

Tutors

Ms Sahota advised parents that the school had sent out a Parentmail to all parents advising of the checks that need to be carried by the parents to ensure the safety of their children in the event their children took private tuition. This was sent as parents may be unaware of what needs to be in place to safeguard their child.

Communication

Ms Sahota reminded parents of the complaints procedure; complaints need to go to the class teacher first. If the issue has not been resolved it would be escalated to the Year Group Lead. If still not resolved the concern would be escalated to a member of the Senior Leadership Team. Complaints will only be dealt with by the Headteacher as a last point of contact.

AOB

Parents advised that the coffee morning, which used to take place should take place more often as this is one way for the school to interact with the parents. One parent suggested the possibility of having a message board on the upper playground with a 'Message of the Day' written every morning and doing the same on the reception message board.

Another parent inquired what the school does with regards to best practice across the Borough to which Ms Sahota advised that Avanti Court collaborates with many schools in the Borough and we implement the best in our school- for evidence of how Avanti supports other schools please view to newsletters for evidence.

Parents went on to mention that they found the curriculum lacking in terms of PE and the school lacking in terms of their promotion of friendly school competitions. One parent followed by advising that British Values were lacking, for example, children are taught about special or religious days around the world however they are unable to talk to parents about the significance of these days.

Action – At the next meeting children's books will be on display to showcase that this is not the case and that British values is always a feature of the newsletter.

Parents advised that a select group of parents of year 6 children had conducted a survey for children to find out what they would like to do for the year 6 leavers do and inquired what the school would be doing for the children. Ms Sahota advised parents that this was something that the Year Group Lead for Year 6 would be organising and she would advise parents once this had been arranged.

Parents followed on by suggesting that the school's facilities are very lacking compared to other schools; the children should be given an environment that matches the academic achievement. A parent suggested that the Trust should be more engaging with the parents of the school as they felt this could be better. Ms Sahota stated that the he Trust are always open to receive feedback and parents are welcome to contact them.

Ms Sahota advised that the school had just had a Trust Review to monitor the school's data, teaching and learning and the curriculum, which was positive. She also shared that the school overall, is in the top 20% of all schools nationally.