

**Coffee Morning Minutes - Friday 28th May 2021**

Mrs Walters and Mrs Sivadasan thanked the parents for attending the Coffee Morning.

Mrs Walters advised the parents that Avanti Court had applied for a grant to develop an edible garden and were successful in obtaining £2000. This aligns the school’s ethos and encourages children to respect nature. This edible garden will be used by the school and also for those families who are struggling to obtain food due to financial constraints.

Mrs Walters advised parents that Avanti Court had joined the ‘Safer Streets’ initiative by Redbridge Borough as the parking issues surrounding the school have become a safeguarding concern. It is proposed that cameras will be positioned in Carlton Drive and at the second gate and ANPR penalty notices would be issued by the borough once Safer Streets surrounding Avanti Court commences.

Inset arranged on the 2nd July was rescheduled to take place in late May and the focus was on well-being, this decision was made in light of the pandemic and the impact on staff. The second day of Inset was very important as we checked our standards of reading, writing and maths with other schools with other schools within the Trust. This strategy ensures that our end of year data is accurate.

Mrs Walters advised that the Ofsted pre-inspection report for our Avanti School in Bishop Stortford concluded that there were no recommendations needed. This is super news!

Mrs Walters informed parents that the pathway had been extended to accommodate the volume of adults using it, however there are still some parents who use the grass area. Please ensure that you use the pathway and avoid the grass area especially when there have been adverse weather conditions as we have had a parent fall over whilst they were walking on the grass to collect their child.

Mrs Sivadasan advised parents that having considered their feedback regarding class targets, child friendly targets have been implemented in Maths, English and Reading. The impact of these class targets will be evaluated over the summer term.

Mrs Walters requested parents to post their questions in the chat as it would be an easier process to follow.

**Questions from parents ( as typed on the chat function):**

**Parent** - Do we have any update on secondary school? Thank you

Mrs Walters advised that the Borough did not feel the need for another secondary school taking into account the current birth rates and also the fact that there are enough secondary schools currently to accommodate the current numbers.

**Parent** - Morning Mrs Walters, my daughter in Year 4 tells me very often that she doesn't get enough food to eat. I have heard this from other parents too and I believe this has been raised with the school, but I am not sure if the issue has been addressed

Mrs Walters requested parents that if they have concerns to speak to the school and not to discuss this on WhatsApp as this is not helpful. Mrs Walters then went on to discuss what was offered to children as *sides* and explained that many children would chose the main and dessert only in order to have more time to play. Mrs Walters advised parents that staff in the lunch hall constantly remind children to go back and choose *side* dishes if they are still hungry, however, we cannot force them to eat food. Mrs Walters also advised parents that some children eat their lunch at 12:00pm and as children are constantly burning energy at school during the day taking part in Yoga or PE, for example, and therefore will be hungry when they return home.

**Parent** - Recently we had many incidents of kids voluntarily pushing and scratching my son and other kids. We wish that such incidents don't repeat.

Mrs Walters enquired who the parent had told and that if they were not happy with the outcome to escalate the matter. Mrs Walters requested to speak to the parent once the meeting concluded so support could be put in place and the incident investigated.

**Parent** - We understand, there was no proper SATS for Year 2 but could we get a feedback for the practise papers

Mrs Sivadasan advised parents that practice SATs papers were given to the children and that feedback in terms of reports would be sent end of June or beginning of July. Mrs Walters also went on to advise that what is contained in their books has more weight from questioning to observing.

**Parent 1** - I do understand that children are sat on different tables but just want to understand on how children treat each other fairly? as we have heard children saying I am more smart etc.

**Parent 2** - Thank you. Even we had an incident saying kids saying that he doesn’t belong in this table.

**Parent 3** - Even we had an incident where kids are telling to my child that your work is not great and ur like a turtle because u write so slow this is so wrong.

Mrs Sivadasan informed parents that we always remind children about showing kindness, respect etc. and encourage children to do the best they can. Unfortunately, children are children and will say things like ‘I’m smarter’. Mrs Sivadasan advised parents that we would speak to the Class Teachers to address this matter regarding being respectful and kind and we would do an assembly today to discuss this with the children.

**Parent** - Thank you for teaching kids about bullying

Mrs Walters advised parents that bullying happens in all schools and we always take the approach that bullying can happen here, this way of thinking means that staff always investigate incidents and remain vigilant. Mrs Walters explained that as a school pupils and staff understand that bullying is not tolerated.

Mrs Walters advised that the Trust would like all schools to use the same Relationship Policy which in accordance with the Borough policy and which was sent to all parents by Ms Vincent. The Trust have also decided that primary schools would not be learning about sex education as it is compulsory in Year 7. A meeting via Zoom will be arranged so that parents have the opportunity to read the policy and share their views and comments.

Mrs Walters thanked all parents for attending and closed the meeting.