



## PARENT FORUM

28.01.25

Thank you to all those who submitted questions and queries to the Parent Forum. It is really great to see parents engaging. These questions have been discussed by the Governors at our recent Governing Body meeting. Please find below the questions and responses.

<b>Are there lessons/reminders about the importance of personal hygiene and wearing clean school uniform?</b>	Yes, there is a robust curriculum in school on personal care. We follow a programme called Jigsaw for our PSHE and across this curriculum children learn about how to care from their bodies, including everything from dental hygiene to personal care. We also have Health Week every year and during this week every year group, including our nursery settings, also look at how to care for their bodies with topics including everything from how to wash your hands to how to make a 999 call.
<b>Are you considering going back to changing into PE kit in school?</b>	We will not be going back to changing into PE kit during the school day. Currently, we have a much reduced stock of loss property and parents report that they are very pleased that their children do not come home with the wrong school shoes. Due to the very high price of school shoes, we understand the frustration when accidents happen and children come home with the wrong ones. However, it can be extremely challenging to reunite children with the correct shoes once again. Furthermore, we do not have spare classrooms for changing and by the time children enter the Upper Juniors some pupils feel quite conscious of changing in front of their peers.
<b>There used to be a cheerleading after school club which was very popular. Will you be bringing this back?</b>	At present, the cheerleading teacher is off on maternity leave. Whilst we are unable to offer cheerleading currently, we do have the option of Zest Dance or a number of other after school club options.
<b>Is it possible to know what is available to buy in tuck? Will you be selling chocolate milkshake again?</b>	We currently have a list of what is available to purchase from the tuck shop. This can be found on the school website under Key Information - Useful Links - Education Catering and Tuck Menu. Unfortunately, we will no longer be selling chocolate milkshake. This is due to the fact that our education caterers have amended their policy and removed this item from their sales list.
<b>Can the school please ensure that boost points are consistently applied on the Reading Challenge?</b>	We are delighted to hear that the boost points are working as a motivating factor for children and encouraging them to read more at home. If you think your child has achieved some boost points, please just make a note in the Reading Challenge diary or mention this to the class teacher and we can make sure they get applied when staff do the weekly tally of reading points.

<p><b>Will you be publishing a criteria for colours?</b></p>	<p>No, we will not be publishing a criteria for colours. Children can either earn these for exceptional attainment OR for exceptional effort. We pride ourselves on being an inclusive school and it is therefore imperative that all children have the opportunity to achieve a colour.</p> <p>However, it should be noted that there are a small selection of colours that can be earned through achieving certain things. Both the Activity Passport colours and the Lexicon Award were introduced with a clear set of criteria. This therefore means that every child has the option to work towards these each year. See below for further details:</p> <p><b>Lexicon Award</b> - details on how to achieve this award for your child's year group can be found on the website <a href="#">HERE</a></p> <p><b>Activity Passport Colours</b> - These have already been sent out for the year and are expected to take about a year to complete. We award these annually in September for the previous year. If you can't find your original - they can be found <a href="#">HERE</a></p> <p><b>Community</b> - Awarded for making a positive contribution to our community. When children have done something wonderful outside of school for their community - we warmly invite parents to share photos and tell us about them. E.g. raising money for charity, doing a litter pick etc.</p> <p><b>Times Tables</b> - For enabling your child to learn all their times tables (Year 4) within 6 seconds to answer. We recommend using your child's Times Tables Rock Stars account to help with this.</p> <p><b>HSA (Out of School Sport) Awards</b> - By keeping Coach Dobson informed of any out of school clubs / achievements, parents can help to ensure that we award the correct colours at the end of the year.</p> <p>Children can achieve an award more than once and will be awarded HORDLE STARS to reflect this. E.g. raising money for charity more than once.</p>
<p><b>How do you decide who goes on extra-curricular trips?</b></p>	<p>Coach Dobson is exceptionally inclusive and it is her mission to make sure that every single child is invited to represent the school each year. She takes great care and consideration to try and match events to children's interests where possible. We are thrilled to share that there has been a wide range of sports offered already this year, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Can Do Festival</li> <li>Infant Agility</li> <li>Orienteering</li> <li>Football</li> <li>Cross Country</li> <li>Dance Festival</li> <li>Multi-skills</li> </ul> <p>Whilst most of our extra-curricular trips are open to all pupils, some do have very clear entry requirements for specific activities, such as lap times for cross country and therefore for these events we are obliged to take children who meet the specific entry level.</p>

<p><b>Can you include in your lesson plans that children need to be reminded to change their reading books?</b></p>	<p>Children are frequently reminded to change their books. This is not written in lesson plans but is part of the daily dialogue between all teachers, teaching assistants and their children.</p>
<p><b>Can you change the time that Hordle Hub clubs go live as some parents are working at midday?</b></p>	<p>We have tried various timings in the past following feedback from parents. Team Office will send out a survey to try and ascertain the preferred communication time which also works for staffing in the office. We will go with the majority.</p>
<p><b>Would the school consider a v-neck cardigan for girls?</b></p>	<p>When we did extensive research for our change of uniform just a few years ago, we identified that cardigans were problematic for a number of reasons. Small children find it tricky to do up the buttons and end up therefore losing or discarding their cardigans throughout the day and they frequently ended up in lost property. Furthermore, jumpers are a much more cost-effective uniform item, allowing them to be handed down and worn by multiple siblings, irrespective of gender. Finally, children look extremely smart in the Hordle school uniform due to the consistency of appearance across all children. We therefore have no plans to reintroduce cardigans.</p>
<p><b>Would the school consider a second-hand costume shop for dress up days?</b></p>	<p>We really like the idea of finding a way to recycle old costumes and to support families with this. We will need to explore whether we have suitable storage in school for this. Over the coming weeks, we will investigate the possibility of donating costumes to a local library where parents can acquire them for free. We understand there is a scheme in place in local libraries around Hampshire where this is already in place. We will keep you posted via the school newsletter once we have a solution!</p>
<p><b>Can you run a holiday club during the school holidays?</b></p>	<p>Unfortunately, we are unable to do this due to the amount of work which takes place on our site each summer. The grounds are commonly busy with contractors and this would make the site unsafe.</p>
<p><b>Would the school offer a quiet zone, such as the library, where children could sit or read during lunchtimes?</b></p>	<p>We wish we could! Unfortunately, we are only just able to staff the right number of adults to supervise all of the areas at break and lunchtime. Due to having over 340 children in school, the safest way for us to run lunchtime is on a rotation basis and therefore FS and KS1 go into the hall for first sitting before KS2 arrive for the second sitting. This means that lunchtime lasts over an hour and a half and all adults supporting with lunch also require a lunch break. In total this means that staffing lunch and breaks takes approximately two hours and requires a highly complex staffing rota to allow for wet play and absence scenarios. Unfortunately, all the adults who could help at lunch are already being actively deployed.</p>
<p><b>Would you consider a tooth-brushing station at breakfast club?</b></p>	<p>We have considered this but due to the numbers of children attending breakfast club each day (up to 45), this would be incredibly difficult to manage.</p> <p><a href="#">NHS guidance</a> states that teeth brushing should be carried out twice a day, once before bed and on one other occasion every day.</p>
<p><b>Can we go back to having</b></p>	<p>In the past four years, we have seen a greater number of parents attending</p>

<p><b>face-to-face parents evenings?</b></p>	<p>parents' evenings and an increase in working parents being able to access appointments due to the flexibility and ease of attending virtually. We do note the importance of having a chance to meet with your child's class teacher and we shall endeavour to keep parent drop ins. In the meantime, should you need to arrange to speak to your child's class teacher about a matter, please don't hesitate to contact the school office to book an appointment.</p>
<p><b>Can we resolve the bird droppings please outside the doors to Squirrel and Hedgehog classroom?</b></p>	<p>Absolutely. We are sorry to hear about this and will clean the area as a priority. We will also do our best to come up with a way of deterring the birds and you may have noticed that spikes have been installed at various points around the school. However, they seem to keep us on our toes as they are always finding new places to take up home! We will do our best to keep on top of this.</p>
<p><b>Are there any plans for CCTV as a safety measure to deter repeat offenders who park on the zig zags?</b></p>	<p>We have raised the issue of parking on the zig zags previously and the school has made contact with the local traffic officer. In addition to this, we have put up signage which was designed by our Junior Road Safety officers to deter adults from parking in these zones.</p> <p>We do not intend on installing CCTV to specifically monitor this as we need to prioritise our admin team spending time on serving the children and our parent community. However, we will, once again, raise this issue with the local traffic officer and send out repeat reminders to parents to avoid parking on the zig zags.</p>