

PARENT FORUM

11.10.22

Thank you to all those who submitted questions and queries to the Parent Forum. Those questions that had arrived in time had already been discussed at Governor level. Those that arrived later will be submitted and discussed in future meetings.

Please find below the questions and responses.

<p>How are School Colours earned</p>	<p>Most colours are earned when the school adults notice a child either achieving a high standard OR making great personal progress OR putting in exceptional effort. In sport, children may achieve their colours when they represent the school at an event.</p> <p>We hold regular curriculum assemblies where we celebrate these awards.</p>
<p>Can parents help their child to achieve their colours?</p>	<p>For the most part, no. However, there are exceptions to this:</p> <p>Lexicon Award - details on how to achieve this award for your child's year group can be found on the website HERE</p> <p>Activity Passport Colours - 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 HERE</p> <p>Community - 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>Times Tables - 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>HSA (Out of School Sport) Awards - 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.</p>
<p>Music Tuition</p>	<p>Governors remain conscious that we have not yet been able to invite peripatetic music tutors back into the school post-COVID. This is purely a pragmatic decision about highly limited spaces which continue to be needed to support groups of children in their learning. We continue to support our peripatetic teachers by signposting our families to their services via Hordle Hub.</p>

<p>Staff turnover consistency and recruitment</p>	<p>Governors are very aware of the current complexity and national crisis affecting staffing, particularly support staffing, in schools at the moment. This has been the subject of governor discussions this term and is well documented in the national press. Headteachers are taking this issue up nationally with the Department for Education and locally with Hampshire LA.</p> <p>Governors have scrutinised staff turnover carefully and are fully abreast of the situation at Hordle. There are no quick fixes or easy solutions.</p> <p>Nevertheless, we are incredibly fortunate to have an extraordinary team of support staff <u>well in excess of most schools</u>. They are exceptional in the way that they support and encourage our children and we could not deliver the standards you expect from us without them.</p>
<p>Evening learning reviews</p>	<p>As with all professions, employers are duty bound to protect their staff's well being and the Governors therefore try to limit the expectation on staff beyond the school day.</p> <p>For this reason we have moved to virtual learning reviews as it is extremely rare that employees cannot take 10 minutes away from their desk / duties to take part in their child's learning review.</p> <p>We have found that the move to online learning reviews has dramatically increased parental attendance, even during working hours. It has enabled parents (even in another country) to take part in reviews.</p>
<p>Late communication</p>	<p>It is always our aim to ensure that we give parents plenty of time when sending comms and we sincerely apologise where parents feel that notice has been insufficient. Sometimes, communication nearer the date is actually a reminder letter of one sent previously - not 'new information.'</p> <p>Action - we will change our comms practice to show when a letter is 'new' and when it is just a 'reminder.'</p> <p>I am aware that we have had two D&T projects running recently when we have asked for items to be brought into school. Please note that in this case we have always indicated that if it is not possible to provide, then we have spares that we can provide.</p>
<p>Packed Lunches as a School Dinner Option</p>	<p>This has been brought to Parent Forum before and, at that time, HC3S were understaffed and unable to support this idea.</p> <p>Action - The team remain understaffed however, we will survey parents in a forthcoming newsletter to ascertain whether this suggestion has the support of the parent body. It is likely that we will</p>

	operate a trial period only to begin with and longevity will be reliant on sufficient take up.
How do you become a 'school councillor' etc.	<p>We have a range of school responsibilities that the children can apply for. These are advertised in school and typically the children will be invited to take home an application form 'IF' they would like one.</p> <p>We make it clear to the children that being part of a group may involve meetings held during lunchtime and some children may not wish to take part because of this.</p> <p>For many of these roles, if the children apply - they are automatically enrolled as we're just delighted to have enthusiastic participants.</p> <p>For others, particularly further up the school, pupils are asked to complete 'hustings statements' and children will be given the opportunity to vote. This is part of our 'Fundamental British Values' curriculum where the children learn about citizenship and democracy.</p>
Congratulations to the Minstead Team	Thank you for the lovely feedback about the Minstead Trip. The Lower Junior staff did an amazing job of making all children feel that they could attend in a way that was right for them. Well done Team!