

Updated on Actions taken as a Result of Parent Feedback from Summer 2022

In the summer term we provided you with responses to questions which we were asked and promised we would provide an update on progress against the actions we had identified. Below is an update on the progress we have made.

Question	Action	Progress
Why do children not do Forest School every year and can we have more Forest School?	To investigate if we could deliver more Forest School activities outside of normal school hours.	We have managed to increase our Forest School Leads hours so that she is now doing this role full time. This means our nursery and reception children now benefit from Forest School sessions every week rather than fortnightly. We will continue with the provision in Year 1, 3 and 5 as this is the preferred model of our Forest School Lead who thinks that this provides greater benefits for the children.
Can children have more opportunities to use the school garden?	To finalise these plans with the aim of implementing them from September.	<p>As reported in our weekly newsletter our Forest School Lead, Sharon, will be leading groups of gardeners from each year group at lunch time to grow something unique and to then make a delicious meal with it. We have chosen recipes from a fantastic book called The Little Growers. We look forward to watch the plants grow and turn into delicious food on a plate! These lunch time clubs will start week beginning 7th November.</p> <p>YEAR 1 - Planting kale and making kale crisps YEAR 2 - Planting radishes and making rainbow rolls YEAR 3 - Planting broccoli and making broccoli trees with garlic crumb YEAR 4 - Planting carrots and making crunchy, fruity slaw YEAR 5 - Planting rhubarb and making messy tarts YEAR 6 - Planting courgette and making feta, courgette fritters</p>

Concerns were raised about school lunches and children not eating them and throwing away food.	I have asked the school council to gather the views of children from all classes which they have begun and I met with our school chef this week to put together a new menu which I have shared with the children today. Once we have agreed a new menu I will share it with parents and explain the changes with the aim to implement it as soon as possible after half term.	The School Council reviewed the menu and old favourites including Friday fish, chips and baked beans have returned to much delight. Our school chef is continuously receiving feedback from children and adapting the menu but we will continue to ask the School Council to review the school menu each term.
Taste Ed Parents were very positive about this program and the impact it was having on their children who were trying new foods at home. I was asked whether children had the opportunity to cook meals. I explained that as part of each unit children should prepare a meal using some of the foods which they have been tasting but this did not necessarily include cooking e.g. they might prepare a fruit salad.	I agreed to look at how we could incorporate more cooking into these units.	This is an area we are still working on.
Staff Absences I was asked if parents could be sent a text if a member of staff was absent. I explained that this is very difficult to do before school starts as time is very limited and the focus is on finding a replacement.	However, I said I will look into the logistics to see if we could do this in a timely and efficient manner.	I have looked into the feasibility of this but I'm afraid it is not something we have capacity to do.
I was asked if we could have recycling bins in the playground.	I have asked the Eco Club to source recycling bins and compost bins for the playgrounds.	We now have recycling bins in both playgrounds which children are using sensibly to recycle food waste and plastic / paper waste.
I was asked if we could provide a Frequently Asked Questions document for new parents in Reception.	I will be collating a list of questions which new parents frequently ask and will provide a FAQ document to our new reception intake this year.	This is something we put together for our Reception parents this year which we hope they found useful.
I was asked if I could provide the newsletter as a PDF instead of a web link.	I will now include a PDF attachment of the main text from the newsletter but if parents want to read about the children's exciting trips and activities then they will need to access the school website through the newsletter link.	The newsletter is now sent out in an email with an attachment and also on our school website. The email should be translated and if you lose this you can view it on our website which also allows you to have it translated.

I was asked if the role of the Class Rep could be clarified.	I agreed that I would liaise with the HSA to clarify this role so that parents and staff know what the role is and how we can work together more effectively to improve communication.	I have worked with the chair of the HSA to updated the class rep role which was shared with parents on Class List at the start of term. This is a guide for Class Reps and other parents so they understand what the Class Reps may do but we ask parents to remember that they are volunteers and that this is not a list of jobs they must do.
I was asked about the expectations for homework in each year group and whether parents could have feedback on the homework children did.	I will discuss with teachers the feasibility of sharing spelling or timetables test results with parents. I explained that I have been trialling additional homework opportunities with a small group of parents. This has evolved and now consists of paper-based maths work books for children in years 1 and 2 and online maths and language programs for years 4 to 6. There is a cost to this and we don't want to spend money on purchasing resources which parents don't want so we will be sharing more details about these programs and inviting parents to express an interest in them if they would like additional activities for their children at home in the autumn term.	This is something which we are still working on.
I was also asked if we could use a different platform to Google Classrooms and EExAT (EYFS ONLY) which some parents said were difficult to use.		We have launched Tapestry in Nusrery and Reception this year to replace EExAT. Google classrooms is very popular in both primary and secondary schools so we will continue to use this as our remote learning platform.
I was also asked if we could use an app such as Seesaw which provides parents with pictures and video clips of children learning in school.	I will explore the possibility of providing Google Classroom workshops either online or in person for parents who would like some training.	We are in the process of setting up Class Dojo so we can share pictures and videos of children's learning in class. We have gained permission from the vast majority of payments and letters have gone out so parents can now sign up.