

Parent Forum 14th July, 2025

Present: Mrs Charlesworth, Mrs Webster, (thanks to Miss McMenamain for supervising the children on the field)

Mrs James, Mrs Perkins, Mrs Kennedy, Mrs Robinson Pereira, Mrs Pearce, Ms Casserly, Mrs Le Cocq, Mrs Richardson, Dr Darwood, Mrs Vibert, Mrs Le Main

Apologies: Mrs Belcher

Items for information	
Building update	Over the summer, the main office will be changed slightly to make sure the office complies with safeguarding and data protection requirements. We have a disabled toilet added outside the hall and a refurb to the Y3/4 toilets. The KS1 library corridor needs to comply with fire mitigation so there are alterations there and we need several sets of fire doors throughout the school.
Budget	The school's budget is predicted to be overspent this year. I have raised the funding pressures with the Government, and there are aware of where the challenges are for a school as small as ours. We are making efficiency savings where we can but our margins are very tight.
Outdoor play and learning update	The work to improve playtimes and introduce resources which encourage different types of play will begin in the Autumn term. At Meet the Teacher, I can share a more detailed plan. There will be some cost, but we are hoping to secure some corporate funding. This will also be raised at Meet the Teacher! A request was raised for a toilet on the field. A portaloo would cost the school money, but there is a church toilet which we could request.
Parent Survey Feedback	Les Landes School Parent / Carer Survey 58 families responded, representing 49% of the community. Views of the school were positive, with 98.3% agreeing their child is happy at school, 98.3% agreeing their child feels safe at school, 100% agreeing that the school makes sure its pupils are well behaved, 93% agreeing that the school makes them aware of the curriculum, 93% agree the school lets parents know how well their child is doing, 88% say their child can take part in clubs. 97% say the school encourages children to be independent and get on with others. 78% say the school has dealt with an issue quickly, with 15% responding that they don't know. 45% of respondents said that they don't know whether school responds quickly and effectively if there is bullying, presumably because they don't have experience of this. Only one parent of a child with SEN does not believe the school gives them the support they need to succeed and 100% of respondents said they would recommend the school to another family. This is only one way for us to gather feedback, and we are committed to offering opportunities for this in a number of ways. We are pleased with the increase in respondents who feel they know enough about the curriculum their child is following, as we have added much more to the website.
Timing of newsletters	At the last meeting it was proposed holding off sending these until Monday. This hasn't worked for the school. However, feedback was sought as to whether it's helpful to send the link to reps -this was also something discussed and agreed.
Items for discussion	
Parent rep role	The role of the rep was discussed and a draft added to so that expectations can be really clear. School to share this for clarity so that we can recruit new reps.

	<p>Parent reps help bring our school community together by supporting communication, building connections between families, and offering a friendly point of contact for parents. It's a supportive and voluntary role – not about having all the answers, but about helping families feel informed, included and involved.</p> <p>Here's what the role involves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcoming new families and helping them settle in. • Encouraging a friendly, inclusive atmosphere among parents. • Sharing occasional messages from the school that might be helpful to other parents. • Encouraging respectful, clear communication between families and the school • Listening if parents have general questions and pointing them to the appropriate member of staff if needed eg: class teacher, office staff. • Reps don't speak on behalf of others or get involved in individual concerns – those are always best raised directly with staff. They are not expected to attend Parent Forum 'on behalf' of the class. • Occasionally being asked to share general parent views with school staff, always in a positive and constructive way. • Occasionally reminding parents that if a response to their question can wait until the next working day, that is what should happen. • The role should last for one year, with different parents having the opportunity to take on the role. <p>Just to note: Parent reps aren't expected to send reminders about calendar dates, trips or events already shared by the school through newsletters or the website. They are also not expected to organise collections or gifts.</p> <p>Being a parent rep is a great way to support your child's class and our wider school family. Every bit of help makes a difference!</p>	
Items from parents		
Birthday cakes	Item submitted:	School to discuss with children, make decision

	<p><i>I wondered if the school might consider stopping this.</i></p> <p><i>There are several reasons for proposing this:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Classes of 25+ children mean that this happens multiple times a term</i> • <i>It is not inclusive for those children with health issues eg diabetes, behavioural issues, obesity</i> • <i>It is an added cost for parents during a global time of financial difficulty</i> • <i>Children that do not bring in these unnecessary treats can be teased or criticised by their peers</i> • <i>Finally it teaches our children that things are always celebrated with unnecessary, empty calories, reinforcing habits and addictions that will plague them into adulthood. This is a huge concern for me given my job.</i> <p><i>I am sure that almost every child at Les Landes has a family celebration plus a birthday party with friends, thus having ample opportunity to indulge in such treats as their parents have selected.</i></p> <p><i>I know I must sound like an utter killjoy but I think, for the sake of our children, we need to make change.</i></p> <p><i>Thanks for considering this as an item for the agenda.</i></p> <p>The proposal was discussed with clear view on both sides. The children will be engaged on this, via School Council representatives, before a decision is reached and shared</p>	<p>and communicate ahead of the new term.</p>
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Date of next meeting: TBC