



The BAWB Federation
Bainbridge, Askrigg, and West Burton Primary Schools
Mid-Dale Excellence in Education
Executive Headteacher: Miss Charlotte L. Harper

Friday 25th May 2017

Dear parents and friends,

Thank you to those of you who attended our joint parents' forum last week. I was present for the main section of the meeting (federation and future plans) so my responses form part of the minutes. Please find responses attached for the remainder of the meeting. Thank you.

Thank you to Kath Alderson for taking minutes, and to Cathy Bergs for chairing the meeting.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Charlotte Harper'.

Charlotte Harper

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The BAWB Parent Forum
Wednesday 17th May 2017, West Burton Primary School

Issues / Points Raised	School's Response / Outcomes
Communication	
The text service continues to be well received.	Positive feedback. Not all parents receive texts regularly but we aim to use as many channels for communication as possible.
Diary dates on the last page of the newsletter do not always include information that is mentioned within the main body of the newsletter.	This should have been updated this week. Thank you for alerting us to this.
Could admin ensure that the newsletter attachment is emailed as a pdf? Parents can't always open it.	We have worked on rectifying this this week. Please let us know if there is a problem this week.
Parentpay – can parents be reminded to visit the site to pay for dinner and milk money? Could an alert be set up when new items are added? Mrs Alderson said that trips etc. are always mentioned in the newsletter prior to the payment item being added to Parentpay.	Mrs Alderson has sought advice and it is possible for the system to be set up to alert parents; this has been done. We would appreciate your feedback.
Could Miss Harper communicate (preferably half termly) as to progress with future plans for the federation.	I will continue to do so as soon as I am possibly able. Please understand that we are also working closely with the LA and diocese; the rate of progress / updates is not always entirely in our hands.
Would it be possible for Miss Harper to attend all Parent Forums?	Yes, it would be possible, though it would change the nature of the forum. When it was set up, a 'constitution' was established and shared amongst all parents and staff. It was agreed that staff presence wasn't really part of the remit of the group, though this may have evolved. I have always been available to attend on request if there has been a particular item for which that would be appropriate. Perhaps this could be put on the agenda for the next meeting – to reshape the purpose of the group?
There was some concern over the organisation of the Tournament of Song and also as to how decisions were made regarding which children took part in which classes? E.g. Askrigg and Bainbridge didn't take part in the speech classes.	Participation was inconsistent between schools because of legacy participation and tradition. I would hope to make this more consistent next year which should also hopefully address the transport issue. The problem was that (with the individual classes) all the children were performing at different times so we couldn't transport en-masse from school. Apologies for any inconvenience.
There had been confusion around the final swimming session (West Burton specific)	Apologies for this. The swimming pool made some unexpected changes in the last few weeks which confused us as they were different for each of our schools.
It was suggested that parents would be keen to help with things like the Nativity. If staff need any help could it be communicated through the newsletter?	Thank you for the kind offer. We can always ask!

Issues / Points Raised	School's Response / Outcomes
Any Other Business	
<p>A parent asked that their gratitude be noted as to how well their child was progressing thanks to the support they were receiving in class. Special thanks went to the Teaching Assistant.</p>	<p>That is lovely feedback which I will be pleased to pass on to staff. Thank you.</p>
<p>Headlice: parents felt the recent bulletin from Miss Harper was very useful. It was also noted that staff had hair bobbles in school and would tie children's hair up if necessary.</p>	<p>Yes, we have been tying some hair up this week. Headlice and their eggs are notoriously difficult to eradicate if we don't all treat at the same time. You will be notified by school if we suspect your child has headlice or nits.</p>
<p>The Usborne Book Fair was advertised (Friday 19th May)</p>	<p>Thank you.</p>
<p>BAWB Fundraisers. Proceeds from the following will be held in a central BAWB account.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A tea towel, featuring every child's self-portrait, was being produced to be sold. This would be available before the end of term. ✓ A photo shoot was being planned for September 	<p>These are lovely ideas and will help to raise really valuable funds as well as unite our federation even further. Thank you to all those who work so hard on this.</p>
<p>The West Burton 50's club money was discussed. It is held within West Burton's School Fund.</p>	<p>'School Fund' is a separate fund outside the school's revenue budget. It is managed from within school, unlike the funds of the PTFA at Bainbridge and Askrigg which has been set up separately with charity status. West Burton hasn't had a parents' group raising funds in the same way so the way we currently manage the 50's club money is to match any donations from the PTFA.</p>
<p>Parents hoped that a seaside trip would be planned for the end of term.</p>	<p>It is our intention, yes – more information to follow.</p>