

Parent Forum Minutes: 26th November 2019

Member of staff in attendance: Mr Bunce (Associate Principal)

Mrs Spruth (Business Support Manager)

Item	Discussion	Response
1	PTFA need volunteers please	
2	Y8 Homework – little bit concerned it is enough and preparing pupils for Upper School?	Constantly being monitored for appropriateness and quantity.
3	The teaching is brilliant and creative at the academy but so far Y8 hasn't been as varied as previous years.	Independent work in lessons will be preparing students for upper school. Students are also broadening their skill base in lessons so that they are Year 9-ready.
4	Accelerated Reader – do all teachers know it is scored on age as well as ability?	Yes.
5	Could a buzzer be put on the London Road gate so parents can use it for Multi active in the mornings/evenings?	The suggestion is noted however it is cost-prohibitive at this stage.
6	Could you please confirm the opening times of the offices?	Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 8am to 4.30pm. Wednesday and Friday 8am to 4pm.
7	What are the classroom plans for next September? Australia only has 5 classrooms but there will be 6 classes in years 3 and 4.	When a decision is made parents will be informed.
8	Parentmail – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Could the academy consider using the Parentmail Parents Evening system? • Sometimes parents struggle to open attachments in the app. • Really like the online forms – please use as much as possible as it is easier for parents. 	<p>Please look at the FAQ on parentmail or contact the academy office if you would like any support.</p> <p>We are pleased you like the online forms and we intend to increase the usage of this facility as well as review other parentmail options available.</p>
9	Mapac (uniform supplier) – complaint from parents about quality and price.	Uniform supplier to be reviewed in 2020.
10	Couldn't hear very well at Sports Day back in summer.	Will consider PA placement in subsequent days.
11	Aladdin DVD – was everyone contacted to say that it wasn't going ahead?	A parentmail was sent on the 8 th November to current pupils. Pupils that left in July will be contacted shortly.
12	Can the academy please clarify when photos of pupils can be taken by parents?	Parents will be given an opportunity to take individual photos of their child(ren) after an event. But no photos are to be taken during an event.
13	Parents Evenings – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why could they only see Form Teachers? • KS3 – how many teachers will parents be able to see next time? 	In response to parent and staff feedback, first parents evening was just for form tutors for pastoral conversations. A full parents evening will take place in February when a wider number of teachers will be available to be spoken to.
14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Really positive start to this year. • Communication has been great. • Really like the Facebook updates; lovely to see what's going on across the academy. • The choir were fantastic at the Biggleswade Christmas light turn on. Thanks to all involved. • Y5 pupils have settled in really well; a number of nervous pupils initially but now they are thriving. 	Thank you for all positive feedback received.
15	Next Parent Forum – half termly – mix of days and evenings.	Calendar dates will be released in early 2020.