

Bridport Primary School Parent Forum 21.11.17

Present

Parents: Debbie Rose, Jo Burlington, Raja Jarrah, Melissa Craven, Sally Spencer

Staff: Debbie Brown, Paul Taylor, Steph Upson

Governors: David Powell, Justin Walton

Note of key discussion issues

The discussion focused on reviewing how the school was engaging with social media as an element of communication with parents and the wider BPS community. DP set the scene and recapped on the formation and remit of the forum. DB & SU outlined the way the school has engaged with social media, in particular the school website, blogging, Facebook and Twitter. Parents that used one or more of these platforms welcomed the 'windows' it opened up to better understanding the range of activities the school provides for their children. DP highlighted that he is a 'buddy-governor' to Y6 and attended a parent workshop having seen it promoted on Facebook.

Discussion continued around parents that choose not to, or don't have the means to engage with social media. SU provided a brief presentation of the various media. It was agreed that the school will provide a workshop for parents on how to use Facebook and Twitter.

Parents and staff recognised that there was inconsistent provision of content across year groups and the school is working to encourage all staff to engage. There is an issue around finding the time to upload content, but as staff see the opportunities this provides for 2 way communication there is confidence this will improve.

DB reminded all that parents can choose not to have children's image on social media. However this will be revisited shortly as new Data Protection legislation will involve all parents being sent letters they need to sign to opt into image sharing. She also reminded all that the school runs annual 'Stay Safe On-line' workshops for parents, but they are poorly attended. JW suggested piggybacking these onto other activity that is well attended (eg parent evenings)

The meeting closed at 4.30 after a discussion to identify the focus for the Spring Term meeting. It was agreed that this would be on how the school teaches the skills of Art across all year groups.