

1. Are there any things happening this term that you have enjoyed?

“Actually yes, I really enjoyed the Mersey Fair last week. My children have been really excited about it. Can there be more events like this?”

Answer: We have discussed as a staff how to promote child led enterprise more in the academy. As part of this drive we will be providing opportunities each term for classes to design, create/make, market and sell their own products in order to make the greatest profit over the course of the academic year.

“My child is in KS1 and I wanted to know what was happening in Maths because they are suddenly really enjoying the homework and seem to be getting it!”

“Yes, mine’s the same. The hassle we used to have with homework has gone. He is really enjoying it now.”

Answer: We introduced Singapore Maths to KS1 this year and because this method allows children to really understand the numbers that they are using it has lifted the profile of maths and made it much more fun for the children.

2. Are there any niggles that have arisen in the first half term that you would like to discuss?

“Some of the home work is too complex, I didn’t understand last week’s and had to google it. Can we have a bit more explanation of what the children need to do?”

Answer: We will put together a parent friendly blurb and a modelled answer at the top of each piece of work.

“ Reading books – in the inside cover it says return the record book each day but sometimes I don’t get it back of the teacher for a few days. “

Answer: I will take that back to teachers in our staff meeting this week and get back to you with a definitive answer in terms of how regularly this should be happening.”

“I am quite new to the school, but I don’t seem to ever be able to catch up with his class teacher to ask questions. “

Answer: I will raise this at our staff meeting this evening and make sure all teachers (when not running clubs) are on the playground at home time. In the event that the teacher is not available either, I, Mrs Milne or Miss Foster will be around so we can pass things on.

“Can you explain the rewards and cards system?”

Answer: We can put together a leaflet to explain how it works and send it out. But briefly, the rewards system is an online system that we use to award credits. These credits can be given by staff for good work, green behaviour or acts of kindness and also be paid to children if they have an academy job such as recycling officer or classroom assistant... the children earn the credits and then can swap them for toys or pens and pencils in our swap shop.

The carding system is used to remind children of our green behaviour for learning expectations in school. The emphasis given to our children is to encourage green behaviour and restoratively help those children that have had a blip get back to green as quickly as possible. Children are first given a verbal warning and their name goes on the board – this means the children have a chance straight away to change the choice they have made to a more positive one.

If this change is made then the name is removed from the board. If the child continues to make a negative choice then a yellow card is issued. This means the child has a further warning and that they need to talk to the class teacher in their own ‘free time’ about the choice they have made and how that has impacted on their learning. If there is a change for the positive then the card is turned back to green before the end of that lesson. If the child continues to make negative choices a further verbal warning is given – at this point the child is at risk of getting a red card and the consequence of this is explained to them. If there is a positive change in behaviour by the end of the lesson the child moves back to green. If however the negative behaviour continues then a red card is issued. The consequence of this means that the child will miss their next break to have a restorative talk with a member of SLT as well as missing ‘Golden Time’ on Friday afternoon. The child is then given a clean slate and goes back to green.

- 3. Okay we are looking at introducing something new but would like more input from parents. Our first project is to become a drop off point for the Food Bank. Our launch is part of our Harvest Festival celebrations. This came about because of discussion on the playground about some of the struggles families are facing.**

“I think it’s a great idea. When we first moved here we got a red voucher and were given loads of food, giant chocolate rabbits for the kids and it really took the pressure off.”

“We could make it a competition between the classes each term and ask people to bring in rice one week and tins the next....that type of thing.”

“What if we extended it to adopt an old person like a befriending system so that parcels can be sent to them and maybe have them in for a special lunch in school?”

Answer: I really like the ideas to promote bring donations in and I’ll look into a buddy/befriending system. Safeguarding has to come first in terms of visitors to the academy but I will look into how this might be made possible.

Thank you all for coming.