

Parents Forum Meeting Minutes: Wednesday 9th March 2016, 9.30am

1. Homework - BowSpace for Parents

Parents will need individual logons per child to access BowSpace.

BowSpace includes an interactive noticeboard for parents.

The 'Home Learning' page shows an information overview of homework that has been set by teachers and a due date. This is not replacing the child's homework planner. Year 7 and 8's are on a carousel for particular subjects which will affect when homework is set for those subjects.

Parents should log into BowSpace using the 'testparent' username and password and email any feedback, suggestions and improvements to Mr Hall at hallt@bow-school.org.uk.

Some parents are concerned that students haven't been set enough homework or as according to the homework timetable.

The Maths department use My Maths to set homework which relates to topics in class and can be monitored.

2. General discussion led by Alice Barker

- **Extra-curricular**

Parents concerned that their children's extra-curricular classes are inconsistently cancelled or have no teacher.

Actions:

- **Mr Jones to discuss the cancellation of maths clubs with Mr Shemoon.**
- **Mr Jones to raise clubs that are inconsistently cancelled or have no teacher show with SLT.**

- **Parent conference**

Two parents attended the Parent Conference. STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) was raised as it generally has a lack of interest from girls. At Bow School from 7th March – 11th March, it is STEM week with activities for all students in school.

- **Lunchtime schedule**

The lunchtime schedule is remaining as it currently stands. There is enough time for all students to buy lunch from the canteen.

- **Body image**

Body image concerns by children were raised by parents. These are being addressed in PSHE, including self-harm.

3. Any Other Business

a. Drop Day Friday 8th July – Healthy Living

Mrs Khera-Lye has asked for parent opinions on what ideas they would like to be addressed on Drop Day regarding Healthy Living. Parents suggested:

- active lifestyle
- importance of daily meals at set times of the day
- importance of sleep
- importance of breakfast
- sugar content in cereals
- balanced diet and water intake.

Bromley-by-Bow Tesco have been encouraging Bow School students in the mornings to not buy fizzy drinks.

Parents are concerned with the flavoured water sold during lunchtime in school due to the sugar content and some feel it should be removed from sale. This may encourage students to buy bottled water.

Action:

- **Mr Jones to review with Mrs Smith and Mr O'Shea what food and drink is available at lunchtimes for students.**

Attendance has been low for extra-curricular activities, especially by girls, although many extra-curricular activities are on offer to all students. The most popular is boy's football.

Drop day on Tuesday 8th March covered alcohol, drugs, smoking and legal highs. SRE is being covered and delivered over the next 2 years.

Bank of America and Barclay's work with Bow School students regarding internet safety.

b. Parent clubs

A proposal for 5 clubs per week for parents has been created, although budgeting has to be agreed and there are staffing issues. The plan will be proposed to Mrs. Smith and an update will be provided by Mr Jones at the next Parents Forum.

Next Parents Forum: Wednesday 27th April 2016 at 9.30am