

Minutes Parent Forum Meeting 21st April 2015

Use of the school gym

Plans are in progress to submit proposals to different charities to secure funding to pay for staffing of the gym out of school hours in order to accommodate

- working parents
- hard to reach parents
- families with health related issues
- make the gym suitable women only sessions –female instructor & blinds or screens in the weights area

Charities to be considered;

1. Tesco
2. 'Can Do' – Bromley by Bow Centre
3. Football Association
4. East End Life
5. Sainsburys

Alice Barker; Lisa Cassidy & Bodrul Choudhury will look at available options and distribute responsibility for completion of funding proposals. Update at the next scheduled PF Meeting.

Parent raised an issue of a gap in the ongoing physiotherapy support for teenagers following injury. Discussion around continued physiotherapy and outreach to schools would reduce the impact of unnecessary and prolonged student absence. Bow School would consider working with and making gym facilities available where possible for outreach teams, should the need arise in the future.

Yoga – Women only sessions

Bow school aim to facilitate between 4 & 6 taster sessions during the second half of the summer term. Details to be published on the web

Designated Parent Room

Head Teacher Cath Smith has kindly allocated a designated space on the first floor as a dedicated parent room. The space will be available for use by mid June 2015. Details of opening event will be published on school website.

The room will be made available for;

Coffee Mornings

Informal Coffee mornings will be held on the third Thursday of each half term 9.30am – 10.30am. The regular meeting will be less formal than the ongoing Parent Forum meetings, and an opportunity for parents to get together for activities, training opportunities and planning. Children will be welcome in the space. Parents will be asked to donate good quality toys and books for use in the 'children's corner/area' of the room.

Governor Surgeries

Current Parent Governor Alice Barker and Badrol Choudhury will raise at the next governors meeting. Evening drop in sessions when parents will have the opportunity to meet members of the Bow School governing body, raise any concerns ask questions and get advice. Proposed date for the drop in session the first Tuesday of every half term 6pm – 7pm. Details will be published on the school website.

Training Opportunities/Events/Activities

A clear list of activities/events/training opportunities will be in place for parents to access from next half term. All details will be published in calendar form on the website and promoted beforehand.

Strengthening Families, Strengthening Communities – We plan to run an SFSC course early in the new academic year.

Zumba – Classes are held every Monday 4.30pm – 5.30pm in the dance studio. Parents are very welcome to attend at a cost of £4 per session. The more the merrier!

Subway

Parents raised concerns about the daily rubbish and broken glass accumulating in the subway area. It was agreed that although the area is cleaned regularly, it needed to be cleaned on a daily basis before school hours. Discussion was held around how parents could voice their concerns to the local authority. Options discussed – Alice Barker to lead;

- Possible additional surveillance – community officer, police
- Getting local stakeholders involved i.e. Tesco, Sainsbury's, and local business
- Parent petition to be presented to the local authority

Crash Barriers

Discussion took place in relation to the removal of crash barriers on the opposite side of the A12 following road works in the area. Safety implications discussed.

Food Revolution

Discussion as to whether parents could access the school canteen for lunch and the potential benefits to parents having this opportunity; Knowing their children are eating healthy wholesome food; Reassuring parents, school meals are value for money.

It was agreed that parents of new year 7 students would benefit and plans to enable this would be considered for the next cohort 2015/16.

Patricia Mulholland – Parental Engagement Officer to discuss with Local Authority Link, to investigate further opportunities for parents to access the school canteen. Details to be published on school website and raised in future meetings.