



PARENT FORUMS HELD ON EACH CAMPUS DECEMBER 2018

Reading

Mrs Robinson, our Reading Leader, outlined our draft strategy, incorporating views and suggestions from the previous forum, and shared key changes.

The main developments are that we are reading more to the children in school using quality texts, exposing them to a greater range of vocabulary. Children will read whole books all together in class with their teacher. This has raised the level of interest in reading already. Where children are free readers, teachers work with the librarians to steer them towards particular books. Where children are not free readers, teachers assign reading books to them but they are free to choose their free reading books. We will review our writing to incorporate the vocabulary being learned. Inconsistencies in reading will be ironed out after Christmas. Children are not punished if they do not complete reading at home.

Some parents have noticed a great improvement in reading already, others noted that their children are struggling with writing and spelling. Reassurance was given that reading comes first, writing and spelling follow. Parents were encouraged to attend the Phonics Workshops we will be running which will showcase how children are taught to read. Parents are encouraged to volunteer in school to hear children read.

We have purchased new books in EYFS and KS1 which are decodable, and the main change is they will now be allocated by the teacher.

We will be welcoming parents into the classroom from 8.45-9am every day across the infant campuses, Years R-2. In this time parents are welcome to share/read a book to their child and others

Bought a new reading comprehension scheme called Cracking Comprehensions which is being used at least weekly by each year group from Y1-6. This focuses on reading skills needed within each year group in line with the National Curriculum and is progressive

We are timetabling more time to teach reading skills across the school and have purchased quality texts to support this.

Across the juniors the Class Teachers will read with every child individually once every half term and write a detailed comment in their reading diaries, modelling effective use of comments and directing support needed at home.

Home learning

Mrs Kurzberg outlined what homework is currently set.

Nursery – Proud Cloud goes home. We have also been covering colours but are reviewing this as most children know their colours by the time they come to Nursery; from January there will be something new to replace it.

Year R – practise formation and maths homework which will be a practical task.

Year 1 – maths challenge and a writing challenge which reinforce learning in school.

Year 2 – different tasks according to the needs of the children, more of a recording task and writing. All parents should have the 'tricky'/'red' words to facilitate reinforcement with their children.

Year 3 & 4 – Homework Bingo which gives the children some choice.

Parents were reminded to speak to class teachers if their children do not understand any homework.

Parents stated that they liked the home learning bingo approach but would like more of a wide range of activities that also incorporate maths and English skills. There was also clarification needed how teachers would recognise or feedback on the children's learning. Some parents had stated that the activities were not sufficiently challenging,

Parents remarked that South Camberley is a very supportive school.

Clubs/After School Care

Mrs Wright confirmed that the current system is far too complicated and school will be reviewing all extended services after Christmas. The vision is for a wider range of clubs free to all and then some to be incorporated into the wrap around care. There will be a thorough review after Christmas with the interim measures being communicated to parents before the end of this term. The target is to have a revised simple to use system in place running efficiently by the Summer term.

ACTIONS

Recommended reading lists to be shared with parents

Comments in reading books – more clarification needed/model comments shared

Round the World Challenge inconsistencies will be monitored

Texts the children are reading in class / spelling lists / homework expectations to be added to Curriculum Newsletters

Homework Bingo – clarification needed for when it needs to be handed in / marking to be reviewed / consider bringing in for infant children / divide into categories (literacy/maths etc) and ask for at least one from each category to be completed / add focused tasks each week reinforcing current learning

Homework books to be handwriting books in lower school with pre cursive handwriting example sheet

TT Rockstars – to be reviewed

Success criteria to be added to homework

Recommendations for books to support your children to be shared with parents; we currently recommend CGP Revision Books for Year 6 SATs

Y2 English homework to be varied/more engaging

Consider an extension to homework tasks for more able

Parent Workshops to be scheduled, enabling parents to support their children further

Training to be made available to parent volunteers

Sports fixture list to be made available to parents