

November 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for the fantastic response to our questionnaire about opportunities for parental involvement in school life. We had 92 responses which represents 44 % of families in our school.

At the bottom of this letter is a table of your replies. We are encouraged to see that the majority of parents are aware of the Parents' Forum and the Little Paxton School Association (70% and 93% of respondents respectively).

For those of you who have not heard about it before, the Parents' Forum is a meeting open to anyone who has parental responsibility for a child at Little Paxton School. It meets in school about once a term and is an opportunity to talk to school staff about concerns you may have or discuss experiences you've had. These may be positive or negative in nature but should only be concerned with school life in general rather than being specific to a particular child. There are usually Parent Governors present at the Forum meetings too.

As you can see from the indications of the most suitable time to hold Parents' Forum meetings there is no time that will suit everyone. These meetings will be organised on a different day of the week each term and the time of the meeting is varied, but we do understand that this will still be difficult for some parents. You will be informed, through Schoolcomms, in advance of the date and time of the next meeting and this will also be mentioned in the school newsletter.

All the topics you suggested on the questionnaire have been shared with the school leadership team. Some of these topics have already been raised at previous meetings but will be covered again at some future Forum meeting. If there are topics which school would like discussed these are emailed to parents in advance of the Forum meeting.

If you wish to contribute to the Forum but are unable to attend in person please email the School Office with your views and ideas which will be included in the discussion at the meeting. Also please contact the School Office if there is a topic you would like to be considered at a future meeting.

It was great to see that most respondents (83%) said either they or their children had attended a Little Paxton School Association (LPSA) event in the last year. The LPSA is a group of people who come together to organise fun events for children and/or adults which can raise funds to provide the extras for the children that the school budget cannot support. There is a committee with a Chair, Secretary and Treasurer and other members (and there is always room for more) but anyone can help without joining the committee by volunteering for a specific event.

From the list of events that people said they enjoyed, it looks like everyone found something to their taste. Some of the events mentioned (the Panto trip, the Christmas parties and the clubs) are, in fact, organised by school staff rather than the LPSA but staff are pleased to hear that your children have enjoyed these too.

As you can see there were some suggestions for different events and a number of people volunteered to help in the future. All this information will be passed to the LPSA Committee. If you

did not leave your contact details but would still like to be involved please contact the LPSA through the School Office.

As we have said before, the Governing Body is always pleased to hear from parents. Please do let us know if you have thoughts or concerns that you would like to share with us. We can be contacted through our clerk (AGatward@littlepaxton.cambs.sch.uk) or through the School Office (Office@littlepaxton.cambs.sch.uk).

Yours sincerely,

Penny Conway

Chair of the Governing Body

92 questionnaires returned (not all sections were completed on all questionnaires)

Are you aware there is a Parents Forum in school that meets about once a term?		YES 64		NO 28	
Have you attended previous meetings?		YES 11		NO 18	
Would you like to attend in future?		YES 21		NO 14	
What time of day suits you best?	Before school 1	Morning 7	Afternoon 4	After school 13	Evening 22
(There were 2 requests that the forum shouldn't always meet on the same day of the week)					
What topics would you like to see discussed at future Parents Forum meetings?	<p>School dinner seating</p> <p>Reward systems used in school</p> <p>Encouraging learning at home</p> <p>Dealing with frustration</p> <p>Variety of PE and games lessons</p> <p>Curriculum – implementation of the new curriculum</p> <p>Competitive sport/team options</p> <p>SEN provision</p> <p>Home learning</p> <p>Changes to the curriculum</p> <p>Behaviours – children/parents/teachers</p> <p>School development</p> <p>Child safety – particularly to/from school – parents driving/parking around school</p> <p>Activities and trips</p> <p>School learning performance</p> <p>Could topics for discussion be emailed to parents in advance so those unable to attend could participate by sending their views/ideas to the meeting in an email?</p>				

Are you aware of the LPSA?	YES 84	NO 6
Have you or your child attended any of the events the LPSA organised last year?	YES 74	NO 15
Events most enjoyed	Everything	2
	Discos	33
	Film nights	20
	Pantos	3
	Circus	17
	Xmas party	2
	Xmas Fayre	1
	Ice-cream sales after school	5
	Cake/biscuit sales	2
	Clubs (Lego, Board Games)	3
	Uniform Sales	1
Ideas for future events	More events that include the whole family Evening social events for adults, such as a pub-style quiz BBQ Quizzes Summer Ball	
Requests for further information about being involved in the LPSA or helping out at any of their events	YES (contact details supplied) 27	YES (contact details not given) 2