



Whitemoor Academy, Whitemoor, St. Austell, Cornwall, PL26 7XH  
01726 822274 Website: [www.whitemoor.org.uk](http://www.whitemoor.org.uk)  
Head of School: Mrs G Hooper

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5<sup>th</sup> February 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to those of you who attended the parent forum Yesterday. We had 6 parents in attendance as well as 2 members of staff.

Attached are the minutes of the meeting. Thank you to everyone for their honest and open feedback. We really appreciate it and will keep you informed on the outcomes of the actions next term.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs G Hooper  
Head of School



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## Parent Forum Minutes

04/02/19

3.30pm – 4.30pm

In attendance: 6 parents and 2 staff

Mrs Hooper gave an overview of the school currently:

- We currently have 109 pupils on roll.
- No changes to staff – no updates on Mr Griggs at the moment. Mrs O'Connor will be continuing in Class 2 until further notice. She will be doing the parents' evening appointments next week.
- Mrs Hooper introduced Mr Ackrell - SCITT trainee teacher who is currently based in class 4.
- We will be having Mrs Cooper (Volunteer – Teaching and Learning degree) in class 3 on Fridays
- Amy Sergison – Currently listens to readers once a week and will be joining the Hub Council this term.

If any other parents are interested in volunteering in school with listening to readers or have an interest in joining the Hub Council then do let us know.

Diary Dates –

Safer Internet day – 5<sup>th</sup> Feb

Class 2 Maritime museum – 6<sup>th</sup> Feb

Parents Evening – 11<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> Feb

Class 4 ice skating – 14<sup>th</sup> Feb - *Discussion around staffing and safety. Mrs Hooper acknowledged the risks involved but assured parents that all risk assessments were in place and that enough adults were supporting the trip*

KS1 swimming starts 26<sup>th</sup> Feb (every Tuesday at Polkyth)

Parent coffee morning 27<sup>th</sup> Feb - *Outside agencies such as the school nurse and library service will be attending.*

World Book Day – 7<sup>th</sup> March - *Parent views gathered on whether to dress up or not – the general view was that dressing up is good with enough notice. Discussion around linking World Book Day with St Piran's Day – more information on this on this week's newsletter.*

Year 6 transition to Brannel – 8<sup>th</sup> March

Snell Cup – 11<sup>th</sup> March

5<sup>th</sup> April – INSET DAY

Actions since last time:

- Discussion around the way in which we now run football club. Parent expressed that this has helped her son to feel happier at the club.
- Homework has been adapted and is more structured. The policy is available on the school website. Parents all stated that they are happy with homework at the moment.
- We have tried to improve notice regarding cancelling clubs. Discussions around this and Facebook. Mrs Hooper apologised for the message last week regarding the football and netball matches. This was an oversight due to staff being off sick. It will not happen again.
- We have been uploading more onto Facebook and Twitter including photos.
- Discussion around the carpark. We have now placed a sign outside regarding parking. Further suggestion of a member of staff to stand in the carpark at drop off and pick up times. Mrs Hooper to look into possibilities.
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Responses from parent surveys:

- How can we still improve communication? One parent expressed the desire for more text messages to relay messages. Another suggested that we upload all letters to the website.
- More understanding about child's progress - we hope that the half termly open afternoons will help with this. Class 2's system of recording test scores is effective. Suggestion that other classes take on a similar system that is appropriate for the age of the children.

AOB

- Parent asked about expectations for reading in school. How often should children be reading to an adult? Mrs Hooper explained that it depends on the child. For some children, it is every day. We aim for at least once a week for every child, even those in year 6. Parents expressed concerns that this may not be happening in some classes. Others also said that their child isn't always finishing their books and therefore doesn't complete enough quizzes. Mrs Hooper to look into this and speak to the teachers about the systems that they are using.
- Parent expressed disappointment at this year's KS2 camp regarding both the cost and the location. Mrs Hooper explained that last year, we had more children sign up to camp than ever before (almost 40 children) so we felt that a closer location was perhaps what parents wanted. We unfortunately cannot do anything about the cost as this is what the outdoor providers charge. In addition, the reasons for booking a shorter camp that is closer to home this year, is partly down to staffing. Several members of staff have home commitments and/or young children. Unfortunately, this means that this year we are unable to offer a trip that is further afield. We are already planning to do a bigger trip next academic year to make up for this. At present we have not had a very big interest in camp. We do understand parents views, however, the trip will still offer the children some amazing opportunities and it would be a shame for it not to go ahead due to low numbers.
- Netball – could the team have some extra practice before the matches. Some of the children are not very confident. Miss Towner to arrange for this for the next two matches.

Actions:

- Mrs Hooper to look into further ways to make the carpark safer including placing a member of staff out in the carpark each morning/evening.
- Mrs Hooper to liaise with office staff regarding how to improve the texting system – some parents do not appear to be receiving text messages.
- Office staff to upload all class letters to the school website so that parents can access them online.
- All classes to take on a system whereby test scores are recorded for parents each week.
- Mrs Hooper to discuss reading across the school with class teachers and monitor how often children are reading to an adult.
- Miss Towner to spend some time with the netball team before each match to better prepare them.