



# Lime Tree Primary Academy

BRIGHT FUTURES EDUCATIONAL TRUST

Lime Tree Primary School  
Budworth Road, Sale,  
Cheshire M33 2RP  
0161 905 0790  
admin@ltpa.bright-futures.co.uk  
www.limetree.bright-futures.co.uk

## Lime Tree Parents Forum Meeting Notes 30.06.2023

By zoom and in person

7 parents in person

5 via Zoom

No emails from parents or carers to add items to the agenda.

### Ofsted Questionnaire

Mrs Larkin has been advised to share this in advance of an Ofsted visit. This has been sent by Parent Mail and Ipads were around at Parents Evening.

### Feedback

Barrier is that parents have to set up an account.

### Action

- Further instructions on how to do this to be sent out again to parents and carers. Will also be reminded at parents evening.
- All comments are useful, to aid improvements in school.

### Uniform Sale

Have been on before sports days. Asked for feedback on this:

Has it been helpful? How can we do it better?

### Feedback

Sports Day was good but it was Summer uniform being sold so it was too late for the summer term as most had bought it.

Is it possible at the beginning of summer term?

Good for Blazers and expensive items.

Will be another Uniform Sale at the Summer Fair;

Could suggest year 6 children donate theirs earlier if they are not required to wear these in Summer 2?

### Action

- Mrs Larkin to see if Year 6 are required to wear blazers in Summer 2.

### Further support for parents

Have offered drops ins, sessions and meetings including the following:

- Just psychologies
- Curriculum overviews
- Come in and read
- SEN Drop In at Parents Evening.

Is there anything else parents would like Lime Tree to facilitate?

We will send out a questionnaire to gauge this information.

### Feedback

Lime Tree is good at sharing supporting information with parents.

Would be good to know the Year 6 transition process for parents with dates in advance etc to avoid clashes between transition visits and year 6 events.

### **Knowledge Organisers**

These are currently being trialled in certain year groups.

Parent Mail sent explaining this.

All classes will have this from September 23.

'Visual on a Page' of Key vocabulary, good for EAL and SEND children, tells parents and carers the links between topics covered between the year groups and updates parents about what has been learnt previously and what is being taught in every subject.

### **Feedback**

This sounds easier to see, clearer, less language.

### **Enrichment**

Children love this - we gain good feedback through children's voices, often favourite activities.

During PPA (teacher planning) children are split between 5 groups:

- Problem solving, communication and teamwork sessions with Mr Hambleton.
- Art
- Cooking
- Drama
- Forest School

Sadly, we are losing Mrs Carter who teaches Art.

Schools across the country are affected by cuts, so we have had to consider the value of keeping Enrichment. We have decided to have Chess facilitated by Chess UK and Dodgeball with a local man in the local area who has won the world cup. Lime Tree also intends to offer chess and dodgeball after school clubs. Many children play chess in school and love it! Dodgeball also has many benefits and supports resilience, teamwork, collaboration, and coordination. Enrichment assemblies are being tweaked. Parents will be invited on for the last week of Enrichment to spend time with the children to join in or watch and hear the teacher talk about how the group have on along with the sessions. Many parents currently enjoy attending Forest School sessions and hopefully this will attract volunteers to help at school. Awards are stopping due to cost. Instead lots of verbal praise and progress, feedback to parents instead.

### **Feedback**

Children don't get awards in class so shouldn't be for Enrichment

### **Staffing Changes**

Lime Tree (as all schools have to) have been forced to make savings due to the cost of living crisis and costs increasing so cuts have had to be made in school to save money. Mr Larkin has had a huge impact across school and is unfortunately leaving. We are planning to share his responsibility between existing staff. Miss Shepherd and Miss Bray are leaving to pursue other non-teaching avenues. Teachers have been appointed to replace those leaving. Mrs Crouch and Miss Evans are Lime Tree staff who will remain at Barton Clough for another year. Miss Gilmartin and Miss Johnson are both expecting and starting their maternity leave over the summer, both are planning to return to us. Miss Lyons is in school until October half term when she will be having her baby.

We are delighted to be welcoming back three of our experienced teachers from maternity leave; Mrs Robertson, Mrs Benton and Mrs Donlon. Mrs Cooper will be working 4 days next year. Mrs Kenny will be in class along with Mrs Slack.

### **Next Year's Class Teachers**

One Year 5 are at Camp this week - their new teachers have been at camp and revealed themselves to the children! The other Year 5 class are at Camp next Thursday where they will find out who their teachers are.

All children will know by Thursday next week who their next teacher is going to be. ParentMail will notify parents about transition days and a letter will be sent out to parents about expectations for next year's. As usual, a 'meet the teacher' session will be held in Autumn Term 1 in September 2023.

Thank you to everyone for supporting the Summer Fair by donating items. Friends of Lime Tree work so hard so please support this as it brings valuable money into the school.

### **Sports Opportunities**

Gold Sports award achieved - We would like platinum.

We need parents and carers as volunteers to support taking children to the external competitions. Any parents who have sporting qualifications, or a passion for sports, we would love to hear from you. We may also need to ask for money towards coaching and transport next year.

All external after school clubs will require payment.

We also need to balance between having so many vital activities to help children, along with staff and teacher workload. Teachers and staff have an incredible amount of work to do so give staff time after school to mark, plan and prepare for teaching. Scaling down activities due to finances but will continue with what we can.

#### **Feedback**

Will girl's football continue? Absolutely it will.

### **Engagement on Social Media**

Twitter - not as much parental engagement as we would like. Younger staff have suggested a move over to Instagram. Teachers spend a lot of time presenting this so we want to encourage engagement.

#### **Feedback**

- Agree as only on Twitter for school.
- Many parents are not on twitter and are shared on parents WhatsApp groups instead.
- Both would be good. Can share on both as platforms are linked.

### **Mixing Classes**

This year we are mixing reception children going into year 1 due to the imbalance of children and their individual needs. New reception children are going to mixed classes. A ParentMail was sent explaining this. Mrs Larkin held a meeting with parents, which had a good turnout, and has shared a google form for parents to support friendships staying together. Feedback from reception meeting was that classes are mixed regularly at other schools.

Proposed mixing for the following year groups in the future:

- Reception
- End of Year 2
- End of Year 4

Playtimes and lunch times, enrichment, cloakrooms, sports will remain shared across classes. The benefits to children are that children get to make new friends, encourage confidence and social communication.

#### **Feedback**

- This is a good idea; parents will struggle with this more than children who are resilient.
- Will be better if known in advance and it becomes custom.
- Classes have imbalances for different reasons, behaviour, SEND, language, sex, in year transfers etc all affect this.
- Will help for High School as building resilience for this along with supporting life skills and social communication.
- Supportive of this for children and helping children to start new relationships.
- Some local schools do it every year.

No decisions have been made around. We will look at research and plan how this will work. We will add to the agenda to discuss this further at the next Parents Forum meeting.

### **Any Other Business (AOB)**

#### **Feedback**

- Congratulations on receiving a recent award!

Times Educational Supplement (TES) we were shortlisted for 4 awards and won the Early Years Award; we are proud of this.

- Last year TES SEND in a mainstream school.
- Bronze Award across the Country.

- Also shortlisted for Conservation School of the year

Whilst awards are lovely as they support recognition for staff, we will not be applying for awards next year due to the cost to us to attend events. This will not change what is happening on the ground as we still intend to provide the best for our children.

**Date of next meeting - will be shared next term.**

#### **Actions for School**

- Further instructions on how to give parent's feedback to Ofsted online to be sent out again to parents and carers. Will also be reminded at parents evening.
- Share expectations around year 6 blazers required at the end of Summer 2. If not can, we encourage these being donated to school.
- Would be good to know the Year 6 transition process for parents with dates in advance etc. to avoid clashes between transition visits and year 6 events.