

Parent Focus Group Minutes – Wednesday 28th January 2026 at 1900-2030

1. With the Government currently working on a new breakfast club offer from September 2026, school has been notified that the Breakfast Bagel initiative will cease at the end of this current academic year. It was felt that our families/children have really benefitted from the free bagels each morning over the past 3 years and a discussion took place about whether PTA could fundraise to keep this going OR if there was another route that could be taken e.g. toast would be significantly cheaper than bagels, OR is there a local company that would be happy to provide/sponsor us to keep a breakfast offer available to our families. It was agreed that Doug would write to our families in the summer term to make them aware that the bagels would be ceasing from July.
2. Entertainment for the community picnic was discussed. A number of entertainers were discussed, some who have previously performed at the event. We also discussed the option of a disco. It was decided that due to the high levels of attendance at the event, we would stick to the usual format, but would use a new entertainer. This year the Bubble Man has been recommended. Doug to reach out and see if he has any availability on our date. **DONE**
3. There was a lengthy discussion about communication: weekly bulletin/dates for your diary/child friendly and colourful vs more basic. It was agreed that with Doug leaving, the current format would remain until the end of the year. The new leadership team can then engage with parents about what would be most effective. Curriculum overviews are letting parents know what is being taught in the classrooms, dates for diary document and weekly bulleting contain key dates.
4. World book day takes place on Thursday 5th March. It was agreed that following on from the success of the previous year, children can come to school dressed as their favourite storybook character OR in comfy reading clothes. School will not be asking for any donations. All school classes will visit Poole library over the course of that week. Doug is also trying to get a storyteller in school again as per last year. The book fair is also returning the week following book day. Whilst it was recognised that the prices of some books are higher than that of the range, parent attendance after school is optional. Last year the school received a lot of books based on commission which was nice.
5. There have been numerous comments made about parking on Green Road, speeding, double parking and parental conduct. Doug has contacted BCP and we are already seeing a high presence of traffic wardens around the site at school drop off/collection time. All parents have been reminded (via last weeks bulletin) about our arrangement with Sainsburys and how permits for Sainsburys can be obtained from the school office. Doug to also re-circulate the parent code of conduct.

6. Next years panto is Jack and the beanstalk at The Lighthouse. Doug has provisionally booked tickets as in previous years, however final decision will lie with new leadership team. There has been a price increase again to £18. PTA have been approached if they would be happy to subsidise the cost of a ticket. They will discuss at their next meeting.
7. There has been feedback from parents about football club, the quality of coaches and the behaviour of some children. **Doug to speak to Premier Education (who provide the coaches) and also the parents of children where behaviour has not been the high standard that we would expect.**
8. Some Year 2 parents have raised disappointment about a big trip not taking place this year (previously we have been to Marwell Zoo, last year we went to the New Forest Wildlife Park. Doug commented that Marwell was not cost/time effective anymore. Two years ago it was £25 per child, this will likely increase and in the same year, due to traffic issues, children were on the coach just as long as they were in Marwell. Last year we tried the NFWP. Feedback was that this was not a good visit, nor did it hugely support learning. It was felt that in order to keep costs down, we would try somewhere more local. This year we are trialling the education centre at Upton Country Park where the children will complete some ranger led activities. It was suggested that the school visits locations such as Moors Valley. It was fed back that children really enjoy the Year 1 Brownsea Island trip and this didn't feel as exciting. Doug explained that it was too late to make changes for this year, however school visits are reviewed on an annual basis – we always try to ensure that there is a relative curriculum link/opportunity for learning. **Doug to speak to Y2 team and circulate itinerary for the day.**
9. Parents are still keen for the school to offer clubs that aren't sports based. In the Autumn term we had Y2 Choir art club and Drama club. Currently we have two sports clubs running. We are currently exploring opportunities for further extra-curricular clubs to be introduced.
10. There was a discussion around school fundraising for different projects and it was felt that it was important that both school and PTA work together on generating funds.

Meeting closed.