

## Feedback information for parents

Issue / discussion point:	School response / proposal : (and additional information)
<p><b>The school website:</b></p> <p>Feedback from parents suggested that they would like to see the website updated on a more regular basis. They would also like to see more news items on there, plus the following information included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What to expect at GCSE (starting Yr 9) but particularly Year 10 / 11 (more information on controlled assessments, the curriculum, exam dates, exam boards, revision guides)</li> <li>• List of clubs / activities currently available to students (and year groups)</li> <li>• Calendar of term dates and holidays</li> <li>• Information relating to hidden curriculum costs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Trips - list of trips available to each year group with approximate costs (to help parents save)</li> <li>○ Revision books - list of essential books (both text and reading books) for GCSE and 'A' level. Listed subject by subject, and again with approximate costs</li> </ul> </li> <li>• More information on specific trips</li> <li>• ATL information – detailed on website, rather than just the newsletter</li> <li>• More reports on school trips</li> <li>• More links from newsletter to website</li> <li>• A list of who to approach for what – e.g. for pastoral care,</li> </ul> <p>It was suggested creating a section for each year group might be a good idea. It was also suggested that if staff are overstretched, older children studying IT could have an input into the website.</p>	<p>Members of the senior management team (Mr Scriven, head and Mr Klays, Deputy Head) were keen to receive feedback from parents on the website and will now look at implementing as many of these suggestions as possible.</p> <p>All trips listed would have to be subject to confirmation (due to staff changes perhaps), but an indicative guide could certainly be provided. A list will be created and posted on the website.</p> <p>Reports on school trips are currently uploaded regularly and we will have already taken steps to increase the number of reports.</p>

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#### The school newsletters:

Parents appreciate the fact that there is now a weekly newsletter, and acknowledge that this is a vast improvement on the previous termly ones. Many really value and look forward to reading them and they particularly like to see the inclusion of photographs. One strong suggestion that came through was that parents would like to see important upcoming key dates / deadlines clearly highlighted.

Other comments / suggestions:

- It would be good to have contributions from different departments. There seems to have been a lot of PE recently - with girls in particular highlighted more than boys.
- There seems to be a focus on the exceptionally talented. It would be great to recognise / mention as many children as possible – to give those who may lack confidence a boost.
- Would it be a good idea to split the newsletter up into year groups?
- Parents discussed the possibility of including out of school achievements in there too?
- Should staff retirements / maternity news etc: be announced in newsletters?

#### Lockers:

An email was received recently from a parent who questioned whether students really needed to store all of their things in lockers? (Particularly at Upper Site). This is because they are not really spacious enough to accommodate coats, PE bags, schoolbags, files, books etc. They are also located in confined spaces which causes a lot of problems when all the children are in a hurry to take things out / put possessions in at certain times of day. The parent suggested that the problem could be solved if the children were allowed to carry their bags with possessions to lessons. They could leave some items - coats, some books, PE kit in the lockers - but take with them in their bags those items required for the classes that day / part of a day. (Other parents at the meeting said they liked the fact that lockers were used...so their children were not carrying heavy bags around all day)

The latest newsletter had appealed to parents / businesses to use the space for advertising purposes. The school sees this as an additional way of increasing school funds for the benefit of all the children at All Saints.

The idea of highlighting important upcoming dates and deadlines was acknowledged and will be acted upon.

The school will also look into the suggestion of contributions from different departments.

The school tries to be as inclusive as possible in the newsletter - the difficult bit is addressing how to do this, to mean it, without appearing patronising. Highlighting the fun run, cabaret and the school show (which includes all year groups and is made up of two casts) have all been great ways of doing this in the past.

The main concern of the school is that of H&S - the corridors are just not wide enough to accommodate children, bags and coats and then there is the question of what to do with them once in a classroom?

Over the years, a lot of time and effort has been put into locker organisation. The present system means that lockers are located as near to form groups as possible and they are in alphabetical order. Different lock combinations have also been used in the past, and the school believes that what we have now (padlocks) is the best option. In the 6<sup>th</sup> form lockers are not compulsory - some opt for them, some don't.

**Feedback information for parents**

Please get in touch if you have any other school related issues that you would like us to discuss at the next meeting in the summer term (date: TBC), or any thoughts on any of the above. You can do so via our dedicated parents' forum email address:

**[parentforum@allsaints.york.sch.uk](mailto:parentforum@allsaints.york.sch.uk)**

And thank you so much for all those who turned up to the first meeting or emailed us - your contributions were most appreciated.