



# Parent Forum meeting Autumn/Winter 2017

## We discussed

Mr Lowbridge-Ellis (Deputy Headteacher) fed back the actions taken since the Summer meeting and asked parents/carers to identify where further action would be welcomed. Ms Draycott (Headteacher) thanked parents/carers for their support in reinforcing uniform expectations.

Mr Lowbridge-Ellis went through the latest Ofsted Parent View responses. The small number of negative responses on Parent View could not be understood by parents/carers in the meeting. The consensus was that this did not reflect their own views of the school.

One of the barriers to completing Parent View is understood to be parents/carers being unwilling to go through the process of signing up with their e-mail addresses. Therefore, a Survey Monkey accessible to everyone has been written by Barr Beacon. Parent Forum members evaluated the proposed survey to be and recommended several additions.

Mr Grocutt (Head of Wrekin House) asked parents/carers for their views on how to further improve praise. Parents and carers loved receiving the praise postcards about their children and would value these being more regular and more timely. They also welcomed suggestions that more verbal gratitude is conveyed to particularly supportive parents/carers.

Mr Lowbridge-Ellis asked how much information parents/carers would value about various aspects of school life. The overwhelming response was that parents/carers trusted the school to do what was best for their children and they assumed everything was going well unless they were notified otherwise. The school website was praised for its clarity and its wealth of useful information. There were some suggestions for developing child-parent dialogue (see right).

## This happened as a result...

- A list of set texts for English literature GCSE has been published online:  
<http://www.barrbeaconschool.co.uk/read-along-with-your-child-english-literature-gcse/>
- 'Shoegate' was avoided in September but ongoing clarification about shoes and bags would be welcome. These sections of the uniform pages will continue to be updated:  
<http://www.barrbeaconschool.co.uk/uniform/>

- The final survey was sent out to parents of pupils from 17 form groups and the results will be shared in the Spring meeting.
- More responses for Parent View will be collected at forthcoming events and the link will be texted out later in the year:  
<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/login?destination=give-your-views>

- Postcards are being sent home as before but in a more timely fashion (additional admin time has been devoted to this). Teaching staff have been prompted to send even more of these.
- The good news phone calls are continuing, including in Sixth Form.
- The vouchers (rewards for merits) are being widely publicised – including what they can be used for (Love 2 Shop):  
<https://www.highstreetvouchers.com/gift/where-to-spend-love2shop-vouchers>

- Pages have been created explaining the online learning platforms that pupils have access to  
<http://www.barrbeaconschool.co.uk/is-your-child-using-sam-learning/>  
<http://www.barrbeaconschool.co.uk/maths-online-resources/>
- A half-termly overview of the curriculum in each subject will be published in the Spring term, following consultation with Parent Forum.
- Text messages will be sent whenever reports are sent home.
- A short piece of guidance was texted out to parents with suggestions for finding out 'what happened at school today' from their children. This was based off strategies shared at the Forum.  
<http://www.barrbeaconschool.co.uk/how-was-school-today/>