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Working Together, Learning Together

To Be The Best We Can Be

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Aberdeenshire



Maria Walker COUNCIL
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Thursday 3rd May 2018

Dear Parents,

Reporting Consultation - Feedback

In November 2016, we consulted with parents, pupils and staff around reporting and sharing learning and we followed this up in February 2018, seeking your views and opinions on what was working well and what we could improve.

Please let me outline the main views/opinions gathered and the actions for moving forward for each of the key areas.

Class Newsletters

Feedback:

- All comments stated that they are useful for diary dates.
- Very few comments reflected the usefulness of information around the learning in class for the coming term.
- It was suggested that this information could just as easily go on Facebook group/website.

Actions for moving forward:

- Class Newsletters will stop. Diary Dates will continue to be updated on the School Facebook Group 'Skene School' and on the School website - 'What's On - Dates for your Diary'.
- Each class has a page on the website which will be updated regularly sharing the learning. Facebook updates will also be given - these are also posted on the website under 'What's on - Latest News.'

Snapshot Jotters

Feedback:

- Parents are disappointed that not everyone is engaging with the process which may affect the continuation of it.
- It is useful to see progress across the year.

- These lead to good discussions with the children about their learning and the requirements of the task.
- A great record and a great opportunity to share them *with* the children.

Actions for moving forward:

- We will continue with the current model for May/June Snapshot Jotters.
- For next session, 2018/19, we will send jotters home only twice a year, November and May, over 2 weeks - one for Maths and one for Literacy. This will allow you to see progression from the start to the end of the year. We hope more parents will be able to engage with this opportunity for reporting and discussing learning with the children.

Book Creators

Feedback:

These are appreciated and valued. They encourage the children to take more ownership of their learning and they love to share their learning at home.

- Love them! Great for sharing with family also.
- Good to hear pupil views however our main interest is how the teacher feels our child is doing.
- A hardcopy would be useful/these cannot be kept forever or can they?
- A paper report would still be useful to look back at later in life.

Actions for moving forward:

- We will continue with Book Creators twice a year however we will tweak the timings. They will now be emailed home in February (Mid-term holiday time) and June. We have considered the feedback given on timings - it is disappointing to hear that some people are unable to find the time to look through this with their child however the value these can provide for all is very high therefore we will continue. Hopefully February mid-term is a slightly less busy time of year for everyone.
- Book Creator links are available life-long so they can be kept. We create new accounts for saving them each time to ensure this. They can be printed off as a PDF although you will lose the video ability.

Parent/Teacher Interviews

Feedback:

- These are very valuable and at the right times of year.
- Right times of year - one after a term to settle in and one at the end of term 3/beginning to term 4 to discuss progress and next steps.
- These are useful if there is an issue that needs addressed but we prefer a written report card.
- These are very useful and give the best insight into the child's progress.

- Ideal opportunity for the teachers to get the support/co-operation they need from the parents.

Actions for moving forward:

- Parents Evenings will continue in the current format. One at the end of term 1 and one during Term 4. This year was an exception due to unforeseen class changes.
- Parents Evening appointments remain optional.

A quick overview of our main reporting opportunities are as follows:

Timing	Reporting Opportunity
End of term 1 - October	Parent/Teacher Interviews
November	2 weeks of Snapshot Jotters - Maths and Literacy
February - around mid-term holiday	Book Creator Profile emailed home
May	Parent/Teacher Interviews
End of May/June	2 weeks of Snapshot Jotters - Maths and Literacy
June - second last week of term (approx)	End of year Book Creator Profile emailed home

Other opportunities include:

- Open door policy - phone calls welcomed and will be returned out with teaching time.
- Open Evenings events - these will be in line with Staff Working Time Agreement
- Diary Dates updated regularly and shown on the School website (What's On - Dates for your Diary) and Facebook Group
- Class pages/blogs on Website
- Regular updates on Facebook Group and School Website (What's On - Latest News)

Best wishes,

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