

Wednesday 23 November 2011 @ 6pm

Jack & Jill Nursery Parents' Forum

Minutes

Present – Diane (3-5s), Kris (3-5s), Sholina (Tiger Tots), Nicole (Tiger), Ahmed (Tinys), Wardah (Tinys), Kim, Donna and Nicola

Apologies were sent from several parents hoping to attend the next meeting.

Welcome and Introductions

Kim thanked everyone for coming and gave a quick introduction to the Forum, explaining that it had been set up in 2008 to provide an opportunity for parents to meet with each other and staff to discuss a variety of childhood and childcare issues.

Mission Statement & Aims

Kim explained that one of the actions from our HMle inspection had been to review the Mission Statement & Aims in light of changes introduced with Curriculum for Excellence. The Forum discussed the Aims and agreed on changes to be made. Ahmed commented that it was good the Mission Statement & Aims were jargon free and all agreed!

Monitoring

Kim asked parents what they felt was most important to them and their children from nursery, and explained that this helps us understand better what parents want and may provide a basis for monitoring.

Areas parents discussed were:

Transitions – two parents children had recently moved into new groups and one parents child is moving groups in a couple of weeks. Nicole said she had felt a little anxious about the transition but staff had been very supportive and arranged time to talk through progress, introduced Nicole to the new room and staff, and arranged visits for her son the week before. Nicole said she felt this had really helped them both settle into the new room. The Forum discussed feedback from staff in general and all parents said they were very happy with the staff and the amount of information they received. Diane explained that she really missed the Daily Sheet but that staff had explained about the White Board. Diane explained that although this was a good idea, she collected at 6pm when the children were all downstairs so she didn't see the Board. Kim said the Board should be coming down to reception for this reason and she would remind Melanie and Nicole to make sure they bring the Board down. The Forum discussed the information on the Board and was happy that this is the information wanted. Kim reminded everyone that they could ask questions and talk to staff about any concerns or feedback they wanted – she realised that at drop off and collection time staff can be very busy but they were always happy to talk to parents about their children.

Menu – Ahmed said he was very happy that his daughter was now eating more new things since starting nursery and they were very pleased about this. He also said that he was very pleased with how much her confidence had grown since starting nursery and she always looked forward to coming in.

Activities – Diane said she felt there was a good range of activities in nursery, both inside and outdoors. She explained her daughter will talk about something or point something out that she is learning about in nursery. Sholina said she likes that the children go out on local walks.

Hand hygiene and table manners – Sholina said she felt it was good to promote hand hygiene and table manners and that she had noticed her daughter now wants to sit at the table to eat dinner and always washes her hands.

Safety and security – Ahmed explained that when they were looking for a nursery they had felt security was important and they were happy with the level of security in nursery, they had no concerns at all.

Parents' Week

Kim explained Parents Week would be middle of December and discussed the program for this. Ahmed suggested this might be a good time to consult parents about how to further encourage them to attend the Forum.

Other Issues

Newsletters – Parents explained that they had not had a newsletter for quite some time. Kim explained that the last newsletter for October 2011 had been sent out a few weeks ago, none of the parents had received this. Kim said she would check and resend. Kim explained the newsletter is also on the website. Kim explained newsletters had not been sent out every month but she would restart this. The next newsletter will be December.

Facebook – Parents discussed facebook and some parents present did not realise we were on facebook. Kim said she would update the nursery's friends list tomorrow. Parents discussed the usefulness of this as a way of sharing information and Kim confirmed that most of our parents were on facebook. Ahmed suggested we could use facebook for questionnaires as you could just fill it out online. Everyone agreed this was a good idea and Kim said she would look into it. ***** **Nursery facebook is Jack Jill** *****

Christmas Arrangements

Christmas Party is on Friday 16th December from 12 – 4pm. If you are not normally in on a Friday please come in for 12pm!

Nursery will close on Friday 23 December at 6pm and reopen on Wednesday 4 January at 7.45am.

Kim thanked everyone for coming again. The next meeting will be in February 2012.

Action

Monitoring	Kim
Facebook questionnaires	Kim
Update email and facebook contacts	Kim
3 – 5s white board to be brought down each evening	Mel / Nicole
Restart monthly newsletters	Kim