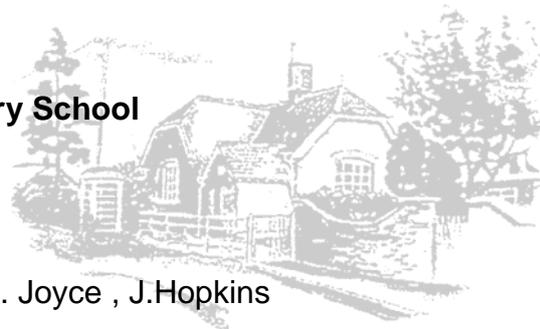


# Redmile Church of England Primary School

## Parent Forum 8/7/10



Present: R.Trigg, C. Lobo, C. Turnbull, J.McGarry, M. Joyce , J.Hopkins  
(Head teacher)

<b>Governors Questionnaire to parents</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
<p>Richard presented the Forum with the written responses to the parent questionnaire and briefly talked through it. Essentially it is overwhelmingly positive about the school and indicates that parents are very happy. The areas for development continue to be around the school informing parents more about what their child is learning, despite considerable new measures put in place this year to address this, e.g. newsletters, workshops, earlier reporting to parents, help-sheets posted on the website, homework linked to class activities, more presentations of work in Friday's special assembly. Suggestions for further support included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• More newsletters, e.g. from Class 2 &amp; 3 (Richard and Julie explained how this might become over burdensome for staff, for example the amount of paperwork increases as the child gets older, especially with regards marking</li><li>• Sending home specific 'how-to-do' help sheets in maths (Julie pointed out that these are sign-posted on the website)</li><li>• Using the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) once it is in full use, to post information that might help</li></ul> <p>Richard raised concerns regarding the depreciation in responses this year, as no real data analysis can be made and asked for suggestions as to why only 12 parents had returned the questionnaire:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• They have done it before so didn't feel the need to do it again</li><li>• Questions don't address the areas they are interested in</li><li>• They don't feel their suggestions will be acted on</li><li>• Doesn't apply to them</li><li>• See it as an opportunity to raise concerns so if they are happy with the school then don't feel that they need to fill it in</li><li>• Didn't receive a copy</li></ul> <p>A discussion was held regarding these points and how to reach more people:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Be more assertive. Tell parents they have got to do it as it feeds in to the School Development Plan and is therefore more relevant than they realise</li><li>• Put it in an envelope addressed to parents, as they more likely to consider it important; it will also stop it getting lost amongst other bits of paper in book bags</li><li>• Governors around on parents evenings and ask parents to complete it whilst they are waiting</li><li>• Send out 2 weeks prior to parents evening then 'mop up' at the meetings</li><li>• Try again to do it on-line</li></ul> <p>Richard would take these ideas back to governors for discussion at their next meeting.</p>	<p>Richard</p>

<p><b>Sex and Relationship Education</b>          Looked briefly at the policy to see how it fits in to the primary curriculum and how we approach the teaching of SRE with mixed classes.</p> <p>Split in to two groups to consider SRE vocabulary/terminology. The aim was to try and decide at what age parents would feel comfortable the school introducing their child to the terms. This proved quite difficult as the concept of a particular term might be addressed sooner than the actual term, e.g. self-esteem.</p> <p>The groups brought their work together and a discussion was held to try and reach a consensus of opinion. A comparison was made with the consensus reached in 2007 by the Parent Forum and it was noted that a lot of terms were left for the next school to introduce! It was noted that previously our pupils transferred at Year 5 and with us now having Y6 the need to address further issues were vital in order to prepare them for life at their next school in particular.</p> <p>It was suggested that staff do the same activity and then compare results. Julie will incorporate this in to an autumn staff meeting.</p> <p>Everyone felt it disappointing that there weren't more parents there to contribute to the discussion, particularly as it is such an emotive issue and one which parents <i>should</i> be involved with.</p>	<p>Julie/Staff</p>
<p><b>AOB</b>          A request was made that parents are given more notice for events like the Family Challenge so that working parents can organise their time. Julie pointed out that dates are generally decided at the beginning of a half term and that they are listed in the first newsletter there after. Also, booking events too early might mean they have to be cancelled/postponed later on because of other things that crop up, e.g. Vale tournaments/events. However, she added that she fully appreciated the point and would endeavour to give as much notice as possible.</p>	<p>Julie</p>