Notes from Parent Forum meeting from 21st November

	Attendees: Rachel Rowe, Mary Nethersole Veronica - Y6, Angela - Y5, Lauren - Y1 & Y4 Lucy - Y2, Stefania – YR & Nursery Apologies Ruth & Kerry
Parent questions	**Discussion and enquiries made**
Mobile phones A request has been made for school to reinforce the message on no mobile phones.	School confirmed there is a plan to do a parent info meeting with other local schools. This is, however, intended to be a parent-led movement. Any parent volunteers to organise each year group, in particular a commitment to not supply children with a smartphone until after primary school? Links: https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/ ("Smartphone Free Childhood is a grassroots movement bringing parents together to stand up for healthier, happier childhoods"). Parents are invited to sign a pledge via this website. School confirmed that children are taught about online safety through both computing lessons and PSHE from reception through the school. School will let parents know the date of the meeting.
Toilets Stocks of toilet paper, towels & soap. Cleanliness of KS1	KS2 toilets – pupils to ask for supplies when needed. If spares are stored in toilets, they will be misused. Therefore, they are kept in nearby classrooms. School confirmed capital budgets are too tight to consider refurbishing the KS2 toilets. Other capital projects more pressing. KS1 – site manager is now cleaning the toilets herself. School to consider putting up posters in EYFS/KS1 toilets with infographics – flush, wash hands, dry hands. Parents please remind children to flush and wash hands at home to reinforce good habits that can be carried over to school.
School dinners Menu doesn't match website	School noted that menu had changed in response to challenges to Herts Catering for better options. See previous minutes. The menu on the website is now correct.
Water bottles Parents had asked if children can have on desks	Not on desks – risk of spillages too high. All teachers allow children regular access to water bottles. Children just need to ask. If a parent is particularly concerned their child is not drinking enough, please ask classroom teachers to keep an eye / monitor.

Library opening times	Library is open Weds after school and Thurs before school for 15 mins. However, no one has been coming on a Wednesday after school so it is unclear whether this will continue. Posters will be made as a reminder.
Reading books Feedback on Yr2 free reader books – not sufficient variety and is Horrid Henry the most appropriate?	School to investigate whether they can rotate some Yr 3 early reader books with Yr 2 to increase variety. An additional point was raised on reading materials for dyslexic children. School confirmed that some money the PA has left over from last year will be spent on dyslexia friendly books. School confirmed there is a trial running in Yr 2 of a computer programme called Lexia. The programme provides insights and is reactive to each child's ability. It is expensive so needs to be assessed how to use effectively and efficiently. School to include an update on dyslexia provision in next SEND newsletter.
End of day	Some Yr 2 parents had said their children were out in the cold at end of day. The Parent Forum noted that the length of time outside is less than at break or lunch time. School did note that there have been occasions where parents with children in multiple classes have felt rushed to pick up in two places at once. This was in the past but is noted so can look out for this in future. Parents to please ensure children are suitably dressed for the weather.
Staff appreciation	One parent fed back that another parent wanted to publicly thank staff. School received gratefully. Request for parents to simply email the office and the message will get passed on. No greater gesture needed.

NEXT MEETING Thursday 30th January 2025 at 6.30pm