

SPRING 2 PARENT FORUM NOTES 2018

Present Representatives for: RWL, RC, 1M, 2CK, 3O and 3F

Why are 3O learning German?

For quite a long time now Modern Foreign Languages has been part of the National Curriculum for Years 3-6. It is for each school to decide on the language taught dependent on the needs of the children and the skill set of the teachers in their school.

Miss Cusselle currently leads MFL across Years 3-5 and is a fluent German speaker. The most widely spoken language in the EU is English, which is understood by 51% of all adults, whilst German is the most widely used mother tongue, spoken by 18% of people in Europe, making this a useful language to have knowledge of when working in business in Europe.

Many parents are concerned about Mr Fricker leaving so late in the year. When do the children and parents get to meet the new teacher?

Whilst we are always sad to see staff leave, staff turnover is part of running a school and we are fortunate that in the last couple of years our turnover has been relatively low.

Mr Allen (the new class teacher) is an experienced Class teacher, who has worked in Kent and Greenwich. He has already visited the school on three occasions in preparation for the move over, including teaching in Year 4 as part of his interview process, talking to us in depth about the needs of the class during this time.

Unfortunately as Mr Allen is currently in position at another school, he is unable between now and Easter to come to school during the school day and will meet parents and pupils on the first day back over Easter.

Snow/bad weather - could the school improve the process?

Unfortunately as a school we are not able to do grit the roads surrounding the school, which was the major block on the three days of closure, to us opening the school. To our knowledge only 1 school in Bexley was open on Wednesday and no schools on the Thursday and Friday.

Our initial systems require us to come in to school and assess the road and safety of the site. This is done between 7 and 730am on snow days. In the meantime staff call the school if they are unable to get in to school for any reason. From the inspection and assessment of the staff to pupil ratio available a decision is then made to open or close.

In the event of a closure, or indeed the decision to open we then update parents immediately by:

- Parentmail (unfortunately this crashed several times over the recent weather and delayed messages)
- Opencheck – via lgfl – Which parents can access either via our website, lgfl.net or via the downloadable app
- School Website

This procedure was followed on both Wednesday and Thursday, however as it was clear on Thursday evening that the weather was not going to improve over night and with a continued amber warning we concluded that making an early decision would give parents more notice

Can the school add a healthy eating/cooking club?

Sadly we do not currently have the facilities to offer a cooking club as we do not have an accessible kitchen that would allow a reasonably sized group to cook. Currently where cooking is done as a school we use a small portable oven which only allows for small groups of 5/6 to cook food and would not facilitate a club.

Healthy eating however is taught as part of our curriculum in Science, PSHE and during collective worship and is supported by the approach of Pabulum (our catering company).

The school expressed its thanks to:

-The parents, Staff and Governors who helped over the Friday / Saturday of the library renovation and Brampton's Café for very kindly supporting us by providing lunch.

-The parents who are now volunteering as readers following the recent drive to recruit in this area.

21/03/18