

## Minutes from Curriculum and Coffee meeting 12.10.18

- GIPA – Galleywood Infant School Parents association are wanting volunteers. It's a good opportunity to make new friends.
- Transition - Mrs Foster asked for feedback on the transition meeting. The school are looking for opportunities to make it better each year.

Parents identified the following features as what went well:

1. Number of visits offered to the children in July
2. The summer picnic in August
3. Timing of the Home visits in July
4. Home visits
5. Journeying together books
6. Gradual transition into school during first week.
7. Approachable staff
8. Time given to talk, parents can see impact straight away!
9. Stickers coming into school
10. Meet the teacher meeting in September
11. October parents evening
12. Time to play in classrooms in the morning
13. Homework not in Autumn 1 helpful
14. Head and Deputy in playground before and after school
15. Time to play before and after school as it supports children to settle and enables parents to make friends. RF advised parents to make sure that children are fully supervised to keep it a safe and fun place to be.
16. Feedback from staff about lunchtimes. Parents appreciate the option to decide to have a school dinner or packed lunch on a day to day basis.

Parents identified the following areas for improvement:

1. Communication of dates so parents can book time off work. Could these be given out in July?

*Unfortunately not always possible as teachers responding to children's interests within themes and topics as learning progresses. Term dates are finalised during the beginning of term when staff and diaries can be confirmed.*

2. Reading books having more books to share and enjoy.

*Mrs Foster explained the system here at Galleywood. Teaching staff will change books formally once a week. Parents are welcome to use the school library or classroom book boxes to change books. Is helpful for parents to keep books in their bags but not essential. The diary is a communication tool between parents and teacher.*

3. Not knowing who everyone is working in classrooms.

*RF identified unknown adults as students. We will put up class team staff.*

- Tapestry – Is an online Learning Journey. Children's individual Journeys are ready for viewing. Secure activations will be sent over the weekend by email and set a password Parents should check spam/junk folders. Mrs Foster went on to explain Tapestry in more detail. Mrs Foster signposted parents to the powerpoint and handout that are on the website in the Early Years Foundation stage tab, under coffee mornings. If parents wish they can add relatives to access their children's Learning Journey but they should have their own log in details and so should give these to Mrs Foster.
- Reading – Children should be able rhyme and memory is also an important skill that needs to be embedded to enable for children to become good readers. Mrs Foster handed out a booklet "Before your child begins to read..."