

Newsletter

Live, love, learn

Let us spur one another of acts of love and good deeds. Hebrews 10:24

24th January 2020



Lunar new year

The children have been exploring the Chinese culture this week with the Lunar new year starting this weekend. Whilst our ethos and values are deeply rooted in Christianity we are always striving to widen our children's wider personal development through cultural understanding. I am sure you may indulge in some Chinese cooking this weekend – Gung hei fat choy!

Community consultation at St Mary's Church

Mr Hill attended the community consultation and feedback from surveys regarding the proposals to change the Church. The school is looking to further it's close links with the Church and is very much in favour of providing additional facilities such as a toilet and basic catering.

Additional training for teaching assistants

We are constantly looking to upgrade the skills of our staff. Last week Mrs Phillips took part in training aimed at delivering reading interventions specifically for those children suffering with Dyslexia. Mrs Phillips will feed back to all the other support staff to ensure the knowledge and skills benefit all classes.

Swimming gala gold!

On Friday 17th January we entered the Okehampton area swimming gala at Parklands. A boys and girls team entered and participated alongside other local primaries. We were delighted to win the Small Schools Gold medal – especially impressive as our team consisted of swimmers from Years 3 and 4 as well as 5 and 6. Thank you to the parents who transported and supported the children.

Worship with Rev. Leigh

We welcomed Rev. Leigh to school again this week – his worship focused on the Lost Son and the message that God is not a genie, who grants wishes, but has a long plan – everything happens for a reason. The children thoroughly enjoy our worships, especially those with Rev. Leigh when he brings in his guitar!

Parents' forum

Thank you to those parents who attended our Parents' forum on Thursday. The conversation was mostly very positive – minutes will be available soon.

Children and parents' surveys

Please see attached to today's newsletter the results of the children and parents survey we completed in December. I am very pleased with the feedback. If you have any questions about the data – please don't hesitate to ask.

Staffing in Class One

There is a slight change to the planned staffing in Class One for the remainder of this year. As you know, Miss Whiteley will be very shortly starting her maternity leave. We had Mrs Sharland, from Bridestowe Primary, arranged to cover her maternity leave. However, a staffing issue at Bridestowe has meant she is no longer free to be released to Exbourne. Therefore we have secured Miss Bryant, who has been working at South Tawton Primary, which is within our Multi Academy Trust. She comes highly recommended and we are looking forward to some successful learning in Class One!

Year 2 and 3 movement and dance festival

All the children from Year 2 and 3 will be taking part in the movement and dance festival at Okehampton College on Monday 27th January. This is a great chance to work with young leaders from the College and get some vital PE skills!

Maths Workshop

All parents are invited to join us for a maths workshop on Tuesday 28th January at 5.30pm to learn how to support your child in Maths. We will be exploring the use of Manipulatives, Images, Calculations and Explanations to show what the children know and understand.

Other upcoming events

In the next couple of weeks, we have the Rotary Club Quiz for Year 6 children, the Devon ability games in Barnstaple and the MAT school council event at Okehampton Primary. These events are designed to give your children a wider curriculum experience and develop their wider personal development.

Diary

January

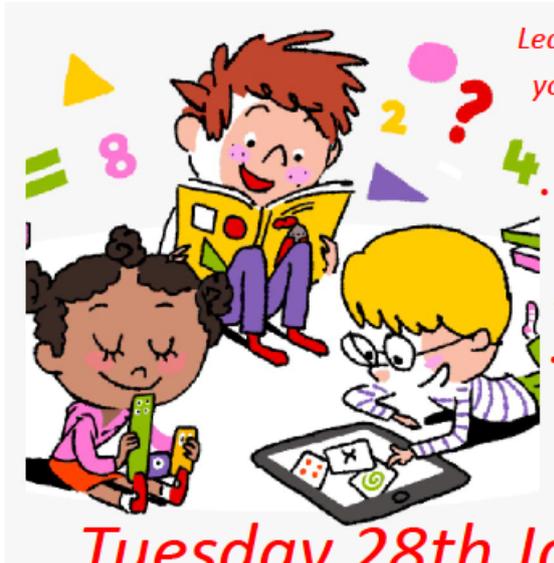
- 27th – Dance and movement festival – All Year 2 and 3
- 28th – Maths workshops – 17.30pm – all welcome

February

- 3rd – Worship with Rev. Leigh
- 4th – Rotary Quiz – Year 6 selected team
- 5th – Devon ability games – Barnstaple – Selected team
- 7th – School council event – Okehampton Primary
- 11th – Parent book look – All welcome
- 17th – 21st – Half term

Mr Hill – head@exbourne-primary.devon.sch.uk

Maths workshop for parents



Learn how to support
your child in maths
through:

- Manipulatives
- Images
- Calculations
- explanations

Tuesday 28th January

5.30pm



EXBOURNE C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Star of the Week

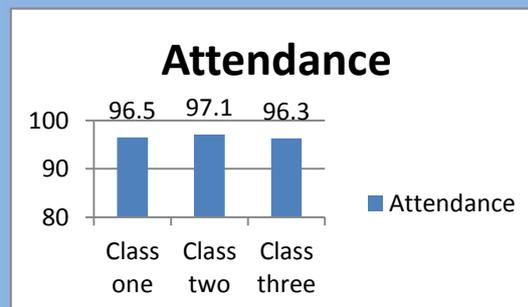
24th January 2020

Class one – Emily – for always showing fantastic learning behaviours and putting 100% effort into her learning.

Class two – Hugo - for being so engaged in learning about WW2 and sharing it with the class.

Class three – Ivy – for a really positive attitude to her work and always trying to expand her writing.

Attendance since 13th January





Dartmoor
MULTI ACADEMY TRUST



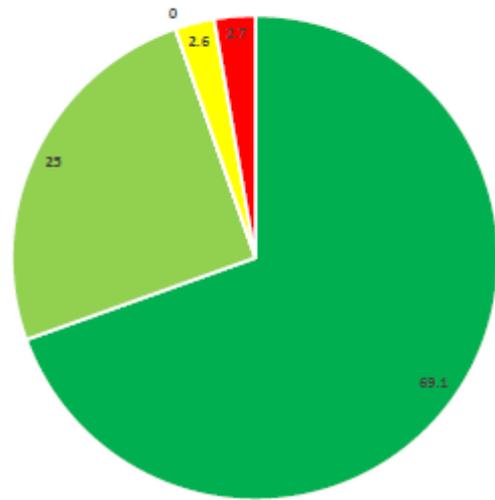
CHILDREN AND PARENT SURVEY, DECEMBER 2019



www.dartmoormat.org.uk

SECTION TITLE

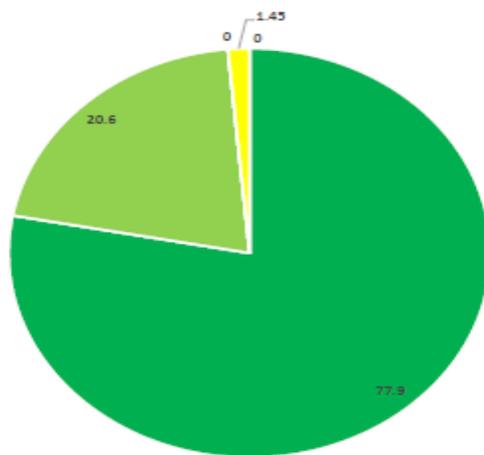
I enjoy school



Strongly agree Agree Neither Disagree Strongly disagree

SECTION TITLE

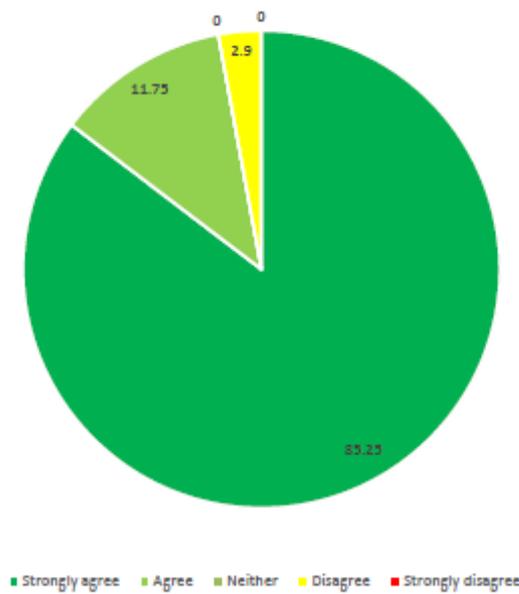
I am safe at school



Strongly agree Agree Neither Disagree Strongly disagree

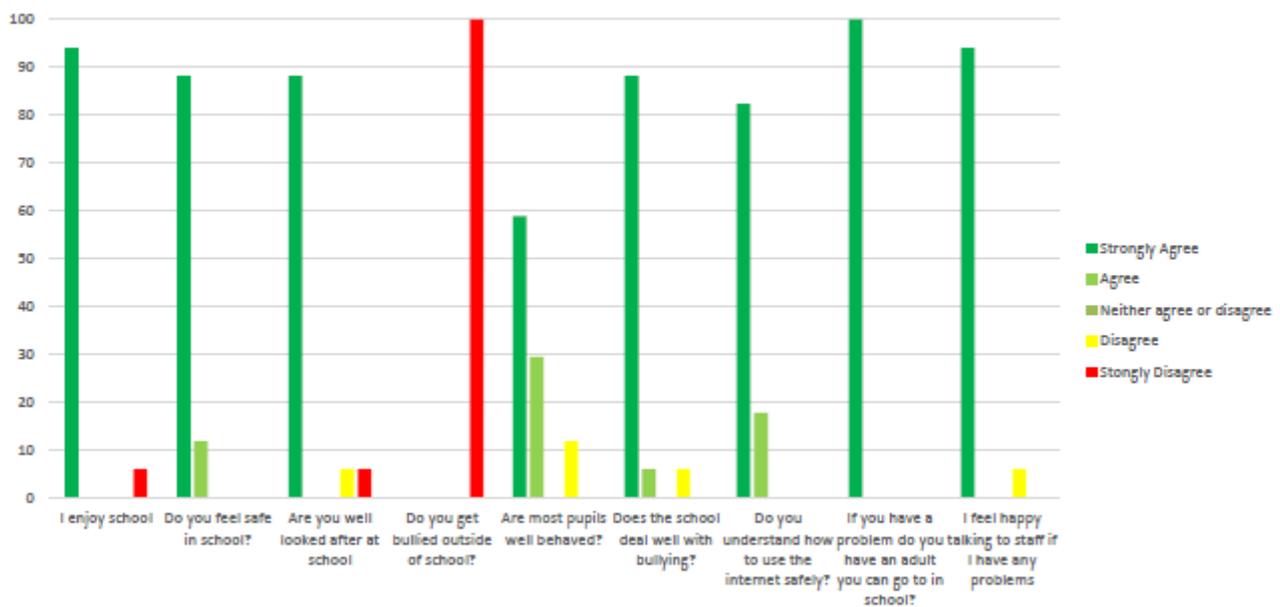
SECTION TITLE

There is someone I can talk to in school if I am worried



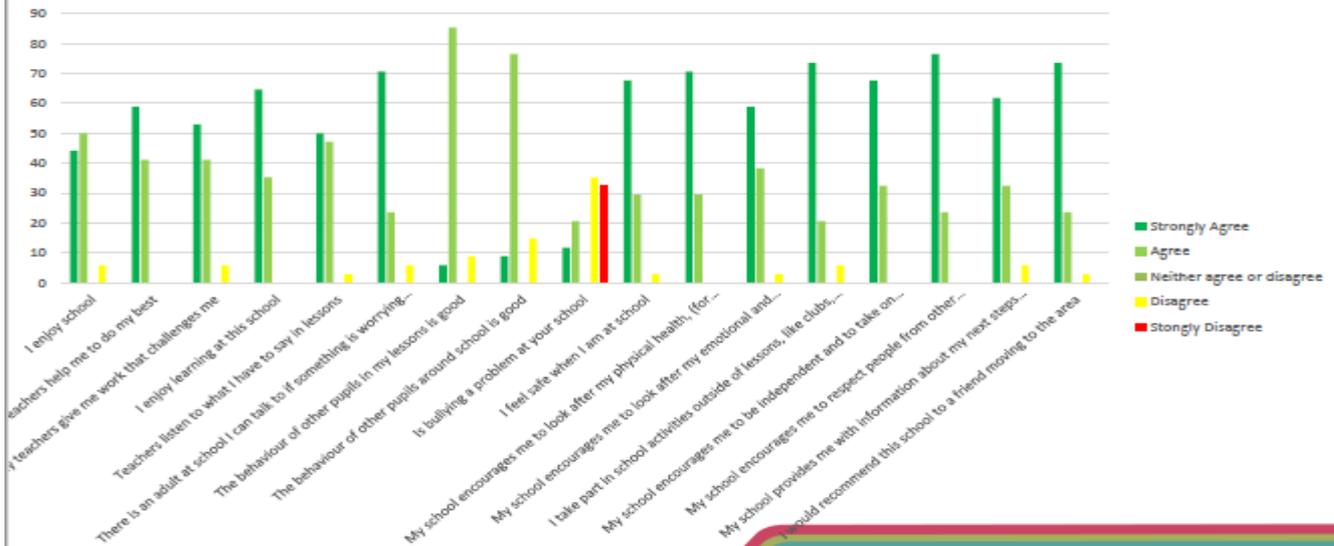
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KS1 survey December 2019



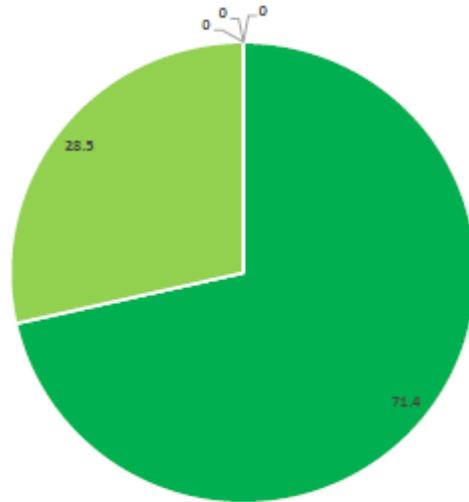
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KS2 pupil survey December 2019



SECTION TITLE

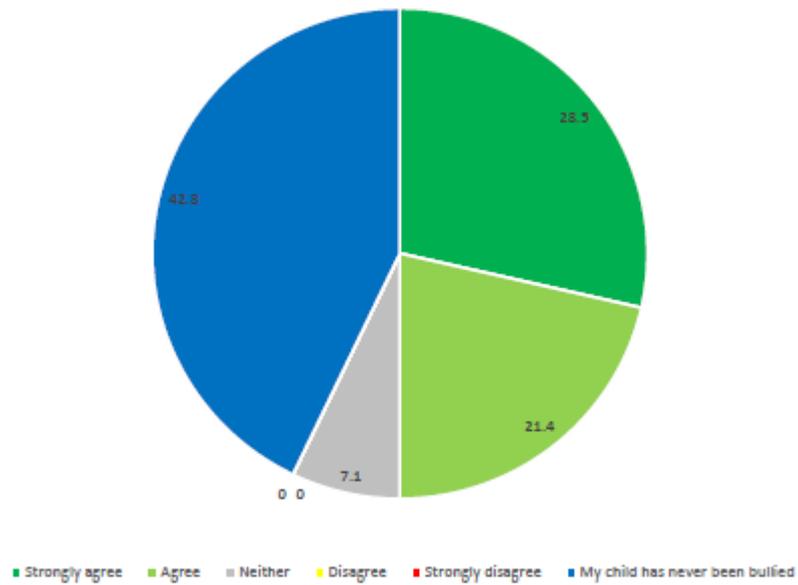
My child is happy in school



Strongly agree Agree Neither Disagree Strongly disagree

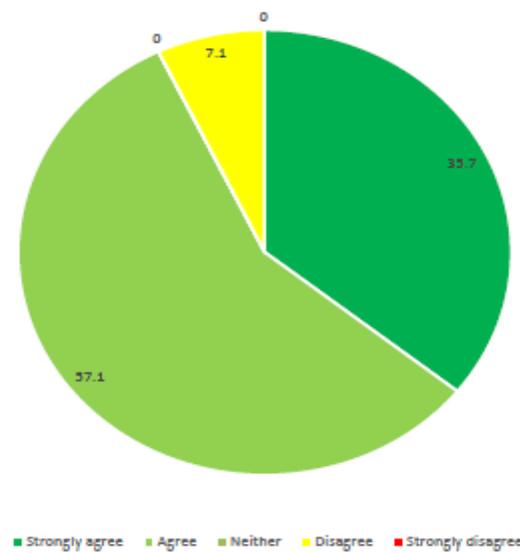
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My child has been bullied and the school have dealt with it quickly and effectively



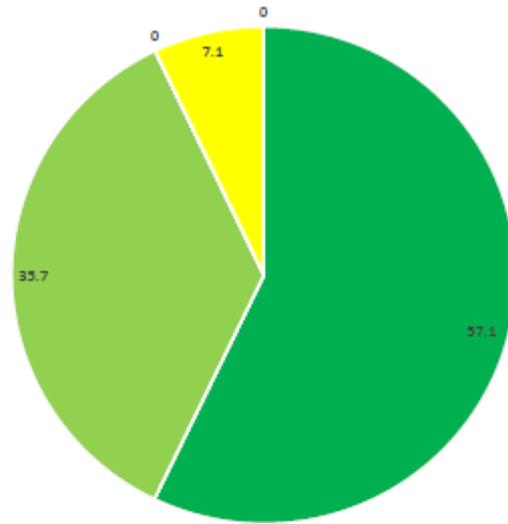
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The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year



SECTION TITLE

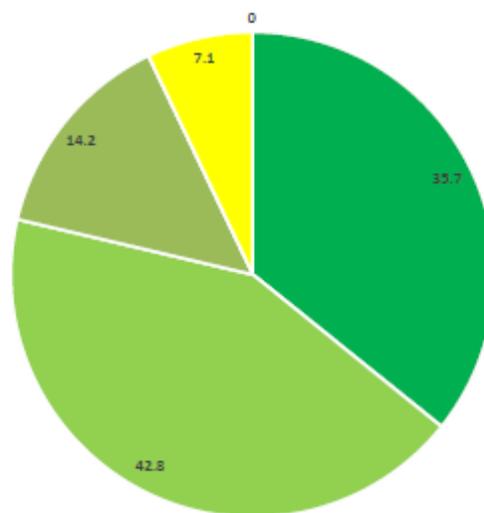
The school lets me know how my child is doing



Strongly agree Agree Neither Disagree Strongly disagree

SECTION TITLE

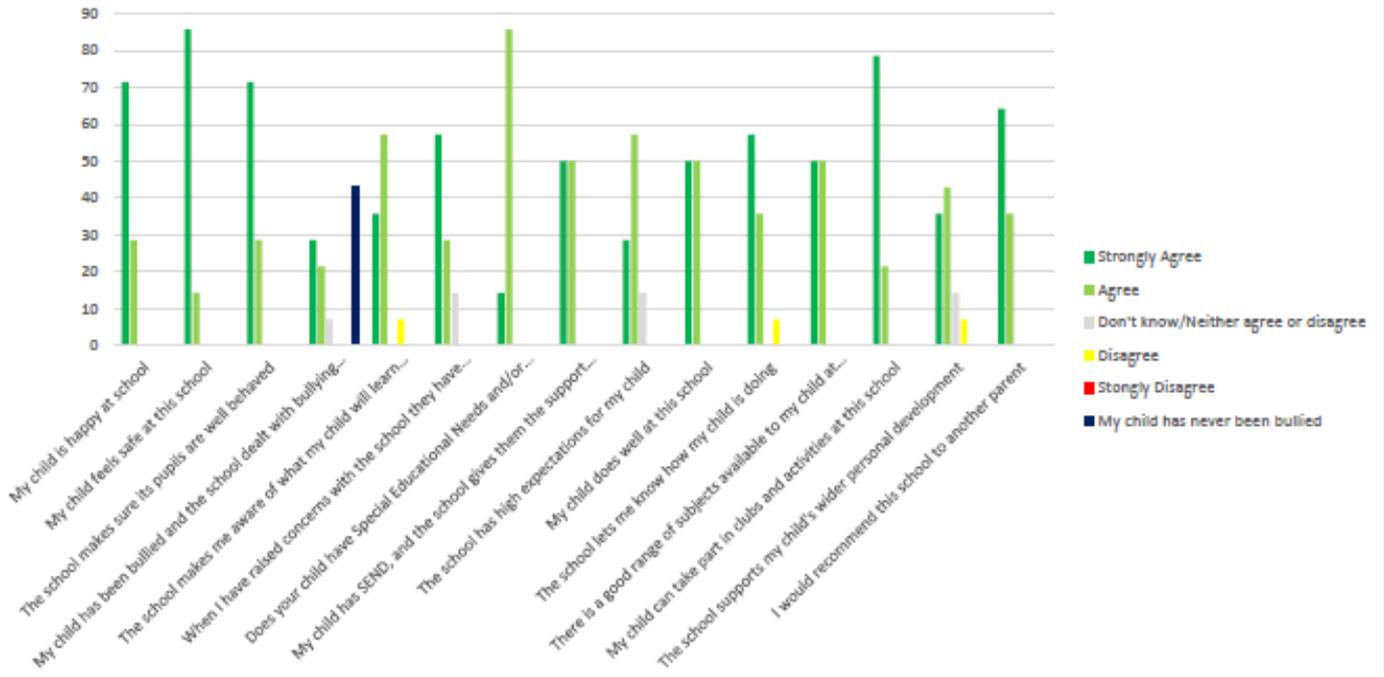
The school supports my child's wider personal development



Strongly agree Agree Neither Disagree Strongly disagree

SECTION TITLE

Parents survey December 2019





Dartmoor
MULTI ACADEMY TRUST



Parents' forum minutes

Thursday 23rd January Exbourne C of E Primary School

In attendance

Adam Hill –Head of School

Daniella Bryant – Class Teacher (Maternity cover) – Class One Katie Sandford -

Sarah Bourne -

Tracey Mills -

Tracey Davies -

Sulina Tallack –

Jackie Andrew –

Minutes

AH welcomed all parents and stated aims of parents' forum.

Staffing in Class One

AH introduced Miss Bryant, who will be covering Miss Whiteley's maternity leave. Mrs Sharland has been required to remain at Bridestowe – so is now unable to cover the maternity leave.

Discussion about Child and parent surveys:

AH shared some of the data from the recent Child and parent surveys. (Attached as a powerpoint to the website)

Children responded very positively to the questions, those who answered negatively have short term issues as reasons – nothing that caused great concern. – E.g. I fell out with my friend at playtime.

The children responded positively to being asked if they had someone to talk to. 2 children answered they did not. AH has since revisited classrooms to ensure children know who to go to if they are feeling worried.

- Parents

At KS2, some children felt there was an issue with bullying. AH is certain this is not the case, but that children has misunderstood what 'bullying' means. More will be done to inform children through PSHE sessions.

Question: Did anything surprise you?

AH – No, we are very happy with the results.

Parents also answered the survey. There were 14 responses. Everyone agreed their children were happy and safe.

1 parent disagreed that they were aware what the children would learn. AH shared a document, on the school website, detailing curriculum knowledge and skills for all year groups.

Wider personal development was less positively answered by parents. AH detailed some of the activities we do to support wider personal development: Church links, trips, school council, play leaders, sporting events to name a few.

1 respondent said they did not feel the school let them know how their children were doing. AH asked for the parental view on this – parents were surprised at this as felt the school were good at communicating this.

Other discussions, raised by parents:

Parents would like to be informed of all incidents at school, even if it has been dealt with within the school day.

Children are feeling the pressure to get 100% attendance, so when they are genuinely ill – they are upset. AH will consider ways of ensuring there is more opportunity to reward good attendance rather than just 100%.

Parents were pleased with the way the children had started the calendar year – especially in the classes with new teachers – Class Two and Three. AH echoed that the school has been very pleased with the way the year has started and how the teachers have settled in.

Parents asked if the school dinner situation would be continuing as Okehampton College's kitchen is still out of use.

AH and parents praised Jackie Andrew – MTA – for cooking school meals on site. Parents stated the children had reported the meals were even nicer than when they came from the College.

AH stated that meals would return to being provided by the College when the kitchen was functional again – the school kitchen is not set up to produce 30+ school dinners.

AH also stated that the Co-Op had been very generous in its donation of food when the kitchen was initially out of action.

A parent asked if there would be more clubs for KS1 children. AH stated he would review this. Miss Bryant will be running a club when she starts full time.

AH asked for parental opinion on a Messy Church, after school. Parents stated that they would like their children to attend but were unsure if parents could commit to attending.

Parent mentioned previous scheme – Jammy Dodgers – was successful on Saturday morning.

Next Parents' forum 25th March – 17.30

Meeting closed at 16.05