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## Parent forum minutes: 8/1/18

1. MB welcomed the new members from Purple Class - Alison Foster and Debbie Mason. Pink Class Grace Dawson and Blue Class Anna Talbot would be joining the forum but unable to make today meeting.
2. Parents had asked why there was no Coat Hooks for Year 5 and 6 in the new buildings. MB explained that Year 5 and 6 have lockers as this prepares them for life at secondary school. This had never been a problem in previous years as all children place their coats in their lockers each day. When it is lunchtime the children take their coats with them for playtime and when it was time to enter the hall they would be placed on a coat hooks stand. AC would feed this back to parents.
3. Year 3/4 Carol concert NW raised the point that this year there was no stage, and parents had felt this was needed as in previous years. MB explained that the date were set in January with miracle house and that they advised they would have a stage available. When it came to the day they had not yet purchased stages and Abacus Stage (which had been used in previous years was already set up in the school hall for school productions).

NW also raised the point of siblings at the Carol Concert. Especially the younger ones (even though they were well behaved). MB explained that she couldn't turn families away if they brought the siblings with them as this was a Christmas concert for all to enjoy. She did bring a copy of the letter that stated that due to health and safety spaces would be limited to 2 tickets per family.

4. GD raised the question about School Reports. MB explained (and it had been put on the newsletter) that school reports would now form back of the parents consultation with teachers. The response from October Parents consultation had felt this was better way, and teachers and parents got more out the meeting.

5. Scooters - Parents Forum spoke about this at length as MB did not want to discourage children and parents walking to school, but it was felt that the message

was not getting across that inside school grounds scooters were not to be used. MB had discussed this as school assembly, newsletter and school website. It was agreed that a text would be sent out to the school highlighting that scooters were not to be used in the school. It was felt that it was only KS1 that was doing this, and the teachers would speak to the children in class.

6. MB brought to Parents Forum attention that members of staff were being mentioned on Facebook posts. It was felt by all that this was not the correct procedure if you had a problem with something. It was agreed that teachers and MB should be approached with the problem for it to be resolved. It was felt Facebook was not the place to air this. MB had been contacted by a number of parents on this matter.

7. Teachers to Parents App. This had been implemented by the Teachers to Parents company. It was advised that you don't have to have the app and you can still receive school text messages.

8. Insert days. MB advised that Essex Council set the school term dates and that Abacus had 5 days to use as Insert days which were teacher training days.