



## PARENT FORUM

**06.02.23**

Thank you to all those who submitted questions and queries to the Parent Forum. It is really great to see parents engaging. These questions have all been discussed by the Governors at our most recent Governing Body meeting.

Please find below the questions and responses.

<p><b>Could children have more keys on Century so that they can see where they went wrong.</b></p>	<p>We understand that the limitation on keys is designed to encourage children to read their feedback and act on it. Nevertheless, we are feeding this back to the Century Team and apologise if this is causing frustrations.</p>
<p><b>Lunchtimes are too rushed.</b></p>	<p>All children get at least 30 minutes to eat their lunch. Younger year groups get 40 - 45 mins. For the significant majority of children this is more than sufficient. For children with additional needs around eating - we make special allowances e.g. getting them in early, so that they can have the time they need. We do try to ensure that children get a balance at lunchtimes. A child who takes 40 minutes to eat, will only get 10 minutes of play. It is possible that children may rush themselves' in their eagerness to get out to playtime - but staff do try to monitor this and ensure that children have eaten an appropriate amount before leaving. If you think your child is feeling rushed at lunchtimes - please just let your class teacher know and we will make special arrangements.</p>
<p><b>The emphasis on healthy eating is too focused on obesity which could inadvertently cause eating disorders later on</b></p>	<p>We are really disappointed to hear that parents might feel this. In both PSHE and science the emphasis is always on 'balance' rather than exclusion of foods and is always taught in the context of wider healthy habits such as exercise. If you feel that your child has received the wrong message about healthy diet - please contact your class teacher directly so that we can support and reinforce the right messages.</p>
<p><b>Stickers and praise shouldn't be used in school - instead focus on the child's sense of self-worth</b></p>	<p>Stickers in school are used for a variety of reasons and there are varying views on their use. In our school, for the vast majority of children, our main aim is to communicate to the parent (and other adults in school) that something great has happened that day. This way, you can start a lovely conversation and reinforce the praise they have received in school and the child can feel proud all over again! When we award we will often say - 'I can see that you are feeling really proud of yourself' to focus them on their own self-worth. For a very small minority - we may use stickers / charts etc to achieve a desired behavioural outcome. The use of these tends to be short-lived and are designed to kick start the change and are then withdrawn once the new behaviour becomes habit. Not all children are intrinsically motivated at a young age. Right from the very start of school - we talk to the children about being PROUD</p>

	<p>of others too. It never fails to give my heart a lift when the children congratulate their friends on their 'great work / achievements' etc.</p> <p>Overall, it is our aim to strike a balance of all methods of encouraging desirable learning behaviours. If you feel that we haven't got that right for your child, please let your class teacher know.</p> <p>The governing body discussed this in depth and felt that, on balance, we should continue with current practice.</p>
<p><b>Some children have a lot more colours than others</b></p>	<p>Often when we investigate this - the children who have notably greater colours on their arms have primarily earned them by completing challenges and pathways at home.</p> <p>Whilst parents can't usually help children to achieve their colours - there are a few notable exceptions which, if you complete them year on year, certainly do start to add up!</p> <p>Please find below the list of 'home colours.'</p> <p>Also - Look out for the new Eco Colour Pathway, designed by our Eco Warrior Team, which is coming out in the newsletter this week. Another one to add to your list and keep you busy on a rainy afternoon :-)</p> <p><b>Lexicon Award</b> - details on how to achieve this award for your child's year group can be found on the website <a href="#">HERE</a></p> <p><b>Activity Passport Colours</b> - These have already been sent out for the year and are expected to take about a year to complete. We award these annually in September for the previous year. If you can't find your original - they can be found <a href="#">HERE</a></p> <p><b>Community</b> - Awarded for making a positive contribution to our community. When children have done something wonderful outside of school for their community - we warmly invite parents to share photos and tell us about them. E.g. raising money for charity, doing a litter pick etc.</p> <p><b>Times Tables</b> - For enabling your child to learn all their times tables (Year 4) within 6 seconds to answer. We recommend using your child's Times Tables Rock Stars account to help with this.</p> <p><b>HSA (Out of School Sport) Awards</b> - By keeping Coach Dobson informed of any out of school clubs / achievements, parents can help to ensure that we award the correct colours at the end of the year.</p> <p>Children can achieve an award more than once and will be awarded HORDLE STARS to reflect this. E.g. raising money for charity more than once.</p>