



TEA AND SEE
Friday 21st April 2023, 2.00pm

Introduction

Mrs Maurice, Headteacher welcomed and thanked everyone for coming. 6 Parents attended, two from Y1, two Parents with children in Y3 and Y6, and 2 more Parents from Y3.

A Parent stated that her children had recently joined St. Peter's and that it was a lovely, wonderful school. Coming from a different County, St. Peter's was a different school to those in Brighton with a clearer approach to inspire learning.

Another Parent asked Mrs Maurice *'What is your big priority'?*

Mrs Maurice replied that her main priority was a plan for the premises and that she had a wish list. With more funding she wanted to improve playground, toilets, IT and move YR into the area where Y1 is currently placed; move the office to a more secure and accessible area thus opening up the main entrance and replace the stage on the playground.

Asked *'how is PTA fundraising money spent'?*

Mrs Maurice confirmed that a funded project for £9000 was currently in the pipeline for a new projector and AV system in the hall and that there was a joint Amazon Wish List to refer to. A Parent asked if the Henfield Community could help in any way with fundraising and mentioned the new Sainsburys coming to the village and would it be worth approaching them to see how the supermarket chain and St. Peter's could help each other.

A question was raised about staffing – *'What is the largest pressure with staffing'?*

Mrs Maurice replied:

1. More support staff are needed
2. A dedicated music teacher to teach across the year groups throughout the school
3. A dedicated sports teacher to have a clear overview of the school
4. After School Clubs – these were currently being provided through goodwill of the teachers

Mrs Maurice was asked *'whether Covid had changed priorities'?*

Mrs Maurice replied, Yes – with staffing and challenging classes due to increased SEN and emotional needs, we just don't have enough support staff. The worry was that with challenging classes, other children don't get the focus that they need. Currently West Sussex County Council were reporting that there were no spaces in alternative provision placements which then led to children staying in mainstream schools who could be better suited elsewhere. More breakout space was needed. St. Peter's tries to avoid 1-1 support to avoid child reliance on an adult. The aim was for children to do things for themselves.

Mrs Maurice was asked *'are there any plans to academise'?*

Mrs Maurice replied that academy status was always on the agenda at Governor meetings.

A further question on academizing was asked *'what would the difference be in terms of the school if St. Peter's was acadamised'?*

Mrs Maurice replied that there would be little difference to teaching and learning, more to systems and procedures and that due diligence was needed for financial gain.

Event ended at 3.15pm