

Thank you to those of you who came.

We talked about book bags. I was wondering how useful they are nowadays. Most children seem to bring a rucksack into school as well as a book bag which seems to me like one bag too many! Also, the bookbags don't fit comfortably into our school trays ; they are too big and the straps get in the way. I was wondering whether one rucksack would be a better option, big enough for a lunch box, with a holder on the side with a water bottle and ideally with a separate pocket for reading book and yellow book/reading journal. One parent suggested that it would still be nice to have a wallet for letters to go into. Whilst most parents thought this was a good idea for the older children, many seemed to like book bags for the younger children. I need to speak to Rag Tags and see how many book bags they had left but I would be interested to hear opinions.

After this, we moved on to talk about PE kit. At a recent netball tournament, we were very impressed with Pimperne's PE shirts which are dark blue and made out of a quick-drying material which seems to me a much more sensible (and much smarter) option than the white cotton shirts that we have. I'm still waiting for an answer on price and supplier. However most parents at the meeting seemed to think these would be a good idea. We also talked again about how nice the hoodies are. I will issue a new uniform list before the end of term.

We then talked a little about classes and staffing for next year. Mrs Coates is retiring and Mrs Hoey will be moving to teach Dolphins with Mrs Uden. We are planning to hold a new parents' evening for Dolphins before the end of term to help with the transition from EYFS to KS1. More details to follow. One parent asked that the Reception children in Starfish could still have some time with the Year 1s. I know that Mrs Cresswell, Mrs Uden and Mrs Hoey are planning to do some things together next term – I'll let them know that this is something parents would like. Letters about new classes have now all gone out to parents.

Celia Smyth asked for more people to train volunteer to become minibuss drivers. If you are willing, the PTA will pay for the test which takes a few hours. Having parents who can drive the minibusses enables us to keep the cost of trips down but at the moment the load is falling on a very few shoulders. It would be lovely to have more people to choose from. Christine Newton, Suzi Legg and Leonne Broome all volunteered.

I was asked if there was any news about Mrs Wesley –Barker. Sadly I have nothing new to tell you though I know many people are working hard to help everyone involved. As ever, I will let you know as soon as I have any more information.

Apologies if there is anything I have missed.