



Parents' Forum Minutes – Halsford Park School Tuesday 5th May 2026

Attending Staff	Claire Spencer Amanda Metters	Headteacher Admin Assistant
Parents/Carers	Rebecca Scott Alex Dewdney-Bell Michelle Lyon Rachel Bennett Emma Pickering	EY Yr1 Yr2/5 Yr3 Yr4
	Daisy McCallum	Parent Governor

How we will be:

Non-specific (not about individual children/adults).
Respecting others' opinions.
Keep it kind.
Solution focus.
Non-Repetitive

Meeting Started: 09.05am

1. Last minutes actions

The action points from the last meeting were reviewed.

1. Arrange date for follow up Read Write Inc. workshop for Year 1 parents/carers. ACTIONED and well attended.
2. Lost property to be put on KS2 playground every other Friday morning. ACTIONED
3. Look into purple PE T-shirts – shades of purple, where to purchase etc. ONGOING. Details will be communicated before the end of term and will confirm that it will still be ok to wear white T-shirts.

2. Successes of the Term

Early Years:

- Mr Beal dressing up as the Easter bunny.
- The AI barn owl that visited the classroom ahead of the British Wildlife centre visit.
- Good progress of new phonics learning.
- Teachers are very approachable.
- High enjoyment of drawing club.

Year 1:

- Extra RWI workshop. Positive improvements in the children are being noticed.

Year 2:

- Pleased that yoga and art lunch clubs are offered.

Year 3:

- Swimming really positive. Mrs Spencer thanked parents/carers for help with accompanying the children to and from the pool. She advised that swimming is part of the National Curriculum. Any child who cannot swim 25 metres unaided will be invited to attend extra swimming lessons in year 6.
- Designing own bugs.
- Teacher Assistants very helpful.

Year 4:

- Multiplication tests communication. Children feel supported. Mrs Spencer advised this is a statutory assessment which takes place in year 4. TTRS (Times Tables Rockstars) is a good way of practising times tables.

Year 5:

- Loving outdoor learning – especially the s'mores.

3. AOB

EY:

- **Book Fair:** The lack of communication and period of time it took to get the books from the fair. None of the teachers seem to know what is happening either. Unfortunately, we were not advised of updated time scales. Moreover, the books arrived unnamed and had to be sorted by the teachers. We will not be using the online ordering system from Scholastic again. Any suggestions for other companies would be welcome. Rachel Bennett suggested Usborne. Mr Stepney and some year 6 pupils will be running a nearly new book stall at the summer fair.
- **Donations:** A parent has asked if they could help buy a child a book from the book fair next year as some parents said they struggled to financially afford it. Could we set up a platform that if parents wanted to help lower income children they could through helping fund school trips, meals, uniform etc? Thank you and please pass on our gratitude to the kind parent who suggested this. Pupil Premium funding helps pay for some of these things, but we are aware there are families who fall just below the threshold needed to qualify for Pupil Premium funding. Donations can be made via the school office. There is also the option to donate extra on School Gateway when paying for trips etc. It was suggested in the meeting that the wording could be updated so parents/carers could donate a specified amount towards a meal, uniform, or school trip.
- Why are all the **workshops and meetings** in school hours? Some parents work these hours and find it hard to attend – could there be some after school or maybe it be recorded so they could watch it at home? It was suggested in the meeting that perhaps any questions (and responses) asked could be added to the presentation notes that are emailed out. Also, if it could be considered to hold meetings at the beginning or end of the week, as working parents and carers are often busier mid-week.

Year 1:

- **Outdoor learning:** The children have enjoyed outdoor learning but they didn't seem to have many sessions. Outdoor learning takes place on a Friday afternoon. Last half term was a short one with an inset day on one of the Fridays. Each year group has outdoor learning at a different time each year and some terms are shorter than others. Please click [here](#) for details.

Year 2:

- **Sports Day:** Can you please ask the school to bring back rosettes for sports day as not all children excel academically but do in sport and I think they should be rewarded individually for that. This would have a significant cost implication which we do not have the budget for. It was discussed how to reward sporting success during the meeting. Perhaps there could be stickers for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places. Also stickers to reward best effort, courage etc. too. KS1 are given core value stickers. This will be passed on to the PE champions.
- **PE days for the year:** A thought I had was if we could keep PE days consistent throughout the year. Appreciate there may be a planning reason why it's changed each half term, but as a parent it does seem to be another thing to have to remember! Due to timetabling and type of PE location needed (i.e. hall/field/playground), different events e.g. year 3 swimming/SATs/outdoor learning, Coach Dave allocation, we do need to swap around. We always inform parents before the start of the new term what their PE days are and they go on the year group experience overview.
- **Teacher led clubs:** Would like to share that am also pleased with the addition of the yoga and art club this term. If there was capacity would appreciate anymore clubs for the younger kids into next year maybe? Will pass onto lead. Each teacher offers one term's worth of a free club (other than an ECT) and we do try to cover the full range of year groups.
- **Morning drop off:** As it's getting warmer more children (and some adults) are cycling/scooting etc. so whilst waiting at the top of the drive/along the path is quite chaotic/busy etc., please can a message go out to the whole school to be mindful of others and especially those older children who are tearing up the path and road on their bikes showing off to their mates, it's an accident waiting to happen and doesn't set a good example to the younger children. Have spoken to year 6 and put a reminder in the newsletter.

Year 4:

- **PE days and Basketball:** There has been some confusion over the current PE days. There are several children in year 4 who enjoy playing basketball. Would it be possible to have some basketball equipment? We have Sports Premium funding (please click [here](#) for more details). We will ask the PE champions to look into this for next year.

Year 5:

- **Outdoor Learning:** My child is really enjoying the different activities every week however they did say one week that the group doing s'mores got two each and the rest have only had one each - please can we make sure this is consistent as the small things like this can turn into bigger issues each week especially with competitive children! Mrs Lochwood confirmed each group only got one s'more.

- **Homework on Google Classroom:** Most weeks this has been uploaded twice - please can it be checked that it's only once as it looks like we have quite a lot of home work but it's the same page repeated. [Apologies, this has been passed on to the team.](#)

Actions

1. Update wording on School gateway to add donation options for a meal, uniform, or trip with specified amounts. OFFICE
2. Questions asked during parent/carer meetings to be added to presentation notes sent. CS/STAFF
3. Parent/carer meetings not to be held midweek where possible. CS/STAFF
4. Stickers for sports day. PE CHAMPIONS
5. Decision around purchasing basketball equipment. PE CHAMPIONS

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 23rd June at 9.05am in the Meeting room

Upcoming Focus:

- Transition – Miss Loftus