

Dear Parents/Carers,

Those of you who were able to attend the last Parent's Forum meeting will agree, I am sure, that it was really useful and informative for all concerned. I would like to also add that one of the key tenets of the Forum is that:

"The forum will not discuss individual pupils or direct criticism at individuals ".

Emotive topics such as Behaviour are difficult to discuss without thinking in terms of our own direct experience. However, there were a number of cases covered as a result of behaviour that people had seen or heard about, that referred directly to individual children and staff, with examples in some cases of names being mentioned.

Whilst this then allowed both Mr Edgington and myself to explain the rationale and thinking behind behaviour management at the March, it also meant that we were at times required to justify our actions, as well as the actions of the staff at the school. This is not the purpose of the Parents' Forum. Clarification about specific issues or concerns should be sought in the first instance, in private, from the Headteacher, Deputy Head or the class teacher. The specific behaviour issues referred to at the Forum should have been couched within questions about themes such as Sanctions or Exclusions rather than used as a way in to the discussion.

It is essential that we keep this in the forefront of our thoughts at the next meeting where we will discuss Special Educational Needs and the new Code of Practice.

Mr S Jackson
November 2014