

PARENTS FORUM MINUTES

6.00 – 7.45pm Thursday 14th January 2016

New Developments

Discovery Education is now live. Student and Parent letters sent home today by Parent Mail.
Doodle is being used by students for exam preparation and to complete homework tasks.
Show My Homework lists all of the homework tasks set.
KS4 and KS5 after school and Saturday morning revision classes take place this module. Details can be found on our website.
We successfully achieved Investors in Careers Level 2

Standing Items

Attendance is currently 94.87% (National Average = 94.80%)
Exams – Year 10, 11 and Post 16 students are currently sitting external and internal exams.
Equipment – Letter sent home regarding the basic equipment needed each day.
Phones – Letter sent home regarding inappropriate use of phones in lessons.
Teaching & Learning - All staff have been observed by the senior team. All new staff are having lesson observations by the senior leadership team shortly.
New appointments:
Miss Fernandez-Secades – MFL,
Miss Obeng-Sabah – Maths,
Mrs Tembo – Yr 11 Maths support
Miss Rhooms – Drama.

Trips

Year 10 Maths Trip to the University of Greenwich - Wednesday 27th January 2016
New York February 15th - 20th February 2016
Post 16 Disneyland Paris 6th - 9th February 2016
Year 10 Maths Fest at Cobham Hall –Wednesday 2nd March 2016.
A level Biology in Action at – Wednesday 2nd March 2016.
BBC A level Live Science – Monday 7th March 2016.
Year 10 Horticulture trip to Kew Gardens – Friday 11th March 2016.
A level Science trip to Wildwood – Friday 18th March.

Student Achievements

Kian Morgan Year 7 M5 – Roller hockey – his team won the National Championships in the Midlands Roller Arena.
Jonjo Heuerman Year 9 A7 – British Empire Medal – youngest recipient.
Warwick Daden – Year 10 A12 – took part in the Ford Fiesta Junior Championship at Brands Hatch.
Verity South Year 8 A8 - Local production at the Orchard Theatre.
Year 10 students have been invited to compete for a place at the Chelsea Flower Show. We have won the regional place for the past 3 years and have been awarded silver gilt awards on each occasion.

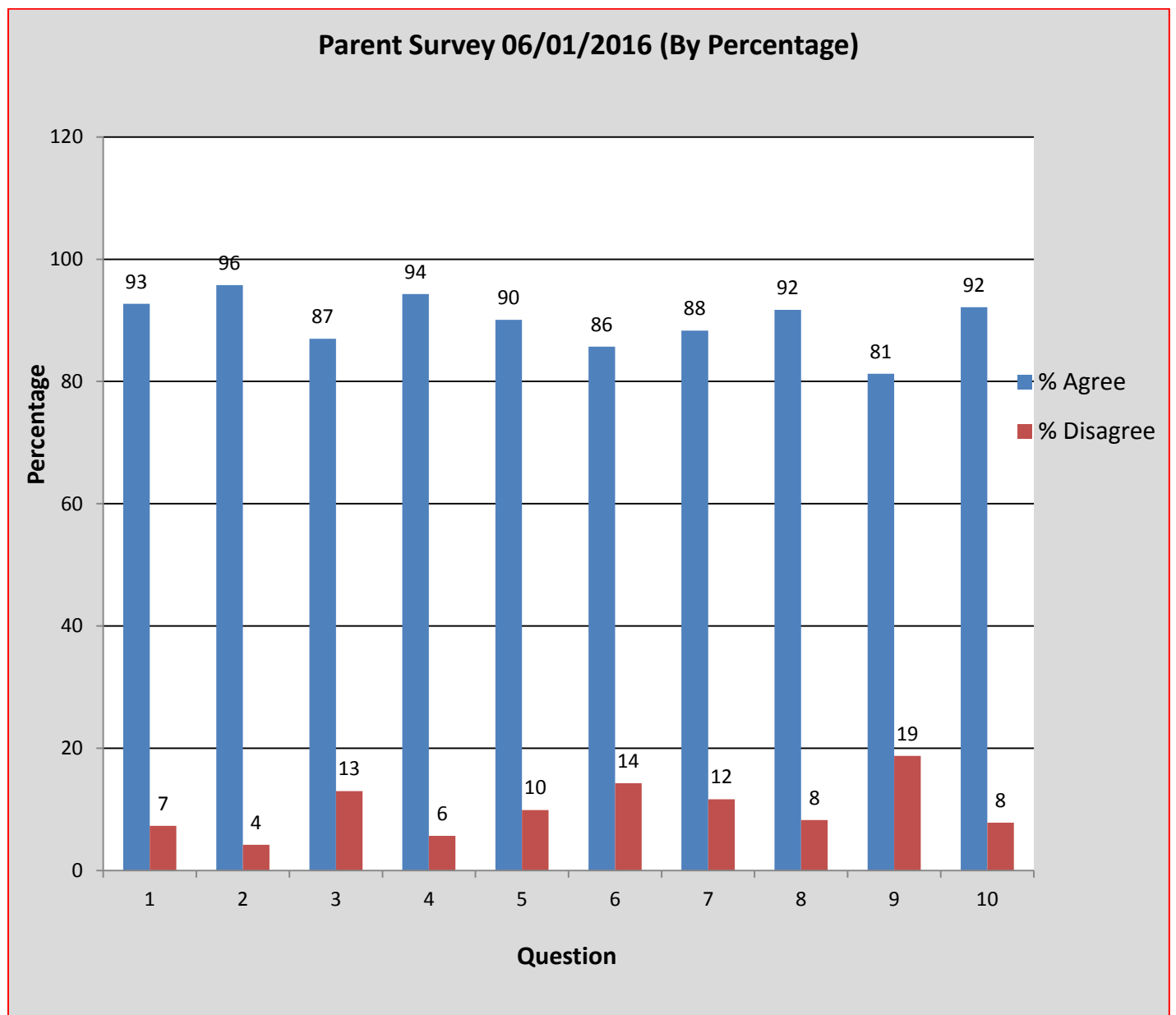
Curriculum

Action Day on 3rd December 2015A wide range of challenging topics covered: Safe Driving (License to kill), Extremism & Radicalisation, FGM, E-Safety, Child Sexual Exploitation, Consent, Pornography, Plastic Surgery, Party Drugs, Same Love, Self-Harm, Smoking, Tattoos & Piercing, Alcohol and Diversity.

Parent Survey 06/01/2016

The results indicate that the vast majority of respondents have positive views about these key issues. A number of actions will follow from the very helpful comments made by parents/guardians.

	Questions	Agree	% Agree	Disagree	% Disagree	Total Replies
1	My son/daughter enjoys coming to school	330	93	26	7	356
2	My son/daughter is taught well	340	96	15	4	355
3	My son/daughter is making good progress	301	87	45	13	346
4	Teachers expect my son/daughter to work hard and to do their best	331	94	20	6	351
5	My son/daughter's work is marked regularly so that they can see how to improve it	309	90	34	10	343
6	There is an adult in this school that my son/daughter can talk to if they have a problem	294	86	49	14	343
7	Staff treat all pupils fairly and with respect	295	88	39	12	334
8	My son/daughter feels trusted to do things on their own	310	92	28	8	338
9	The Academy is interested in the views of its pupils	273	81	63	19	336
10	My son/daughter feels safe at the Academy	317	92	27	8	344



Charity

Comic Relief – Mrs Mongon raised £500 by spending the day dressed as Pudsey.

Tutor Group M13 scored 1230 basketball baskets in one hour raising enough to make 10 hampers for the Post 16 Annual Christmas Community Party for 130+ guests. This event raised over £400.

Mrs Oliver cycled 350 miles in Cambodia for Cancer Research.

Miss Larner is running the marathon in April. Her sponsorship page is: <http://tinyurl.com/pdohckm>.

Mrs Rackley organised a Shoebox Appeal for Samaritans Purse – 130+ boxes sent to children in need.

Parent Teacher Meetings

Post 16 Parents Evening – 5.00 – 8.00pm Thursday 28th January 2016.

Year 7 Parents Evening – 5.00 – 8.00pm Thursday 4th February 2016.

A.O.B.

1. There has been a short delay with the arrival of Bring Your Own Devices. They will be issued in the next week.
2. Some Year 7 students are getting too much homework. Teachers to clarify if they are 4 or 5 week tasks on Show My Homework.
3. Request for lockers – not possible currently.
4. Selection criteria to be clearly stated in all communications e.g. PGL trip is only for the Year 8 school netball team.
5. Music lessons – paid for peripatetic drumming teacher has been absent. B Dedross to check the situation with Mr Blakemore.
6. Show My Homework – some staff are not showing all of the tasks set. B Dedross to raise this with teachers.
7. Emails via Parent Mail are still being sent to students that have left. B Dedross to raise with the Admin team.
8. Parent's requested that prior notice of the topics covered on Action Days be communicated home in advance.

Barry Dedross
Assistant Principal

1. CEIAG (Careers Education, Information and Guidance)

Wilmington Academy's application for Investors in Careers – Level One has been submitted and the resulting decision will be communicated at the next meeting and via the Academy website.

2. Upcoming Events

Parents were informed of the following upcoming events.

- a. 10th December 2014 - Community Christmas Tea Party
- b. 18th December 2014 - Year 7 Christmas Pantomime Trip
- c. 19th January 2015 - Year 7 Parents Evening
- d. 29th January 2015 - Post-16 Progress Evening
- e. 13th February 2015 - INSET Day - Cross-Trust CPD
- f. Upcoming trips in 2015 – Germany/Poland, Brussels (European Parliament), New York, Italy (Ski Trip), Bath (Summer 2015).

3. A.O.B.

SIMS – There have been some issues with the recording of homework submitted on SIMS. PDE will be meeting with a staff member to ascertain how the issues can be resolved.

Admissions 2015 – It was reported that applications for the Academy for September 2015 are even higher than last year and we are very oversubscribed with over 1,000 applications. Parents were thanked for their support and the positive feedback they give to the local community about the Academy.

Parents were informed about Wilmington Academy's strong presence in Dartford on Remembrance Sunday, where a wreath was laid on behalf of the Academy. The students featured on the Mayor of Dartford's webpage about the commemoration.