



Parents' forum minutes

Monday 7th October – 13.30

Bridestowe Primary School

In attendance

Adam Hill – Acting Head of School

Phil Whittley – Executive Headteacher

Ali Lane -

Jo Pritchard -

Helen Proctor - - Parents

Helen Moppett -

Rachel Dewsbury –

Apologies: Anne Taylor, Mel Ford

Minutes

AH welcomed all parents and stated aims of parents' forum.

Discussion about reading:

AH led discussion on the importance of reading with and to children. Discussion that reading doesn't always mean books, it can be magazines, comics, online, newspapers and audio books etc.

Research showing the importance of reading was shared including 'Reading with children – even after children can read'

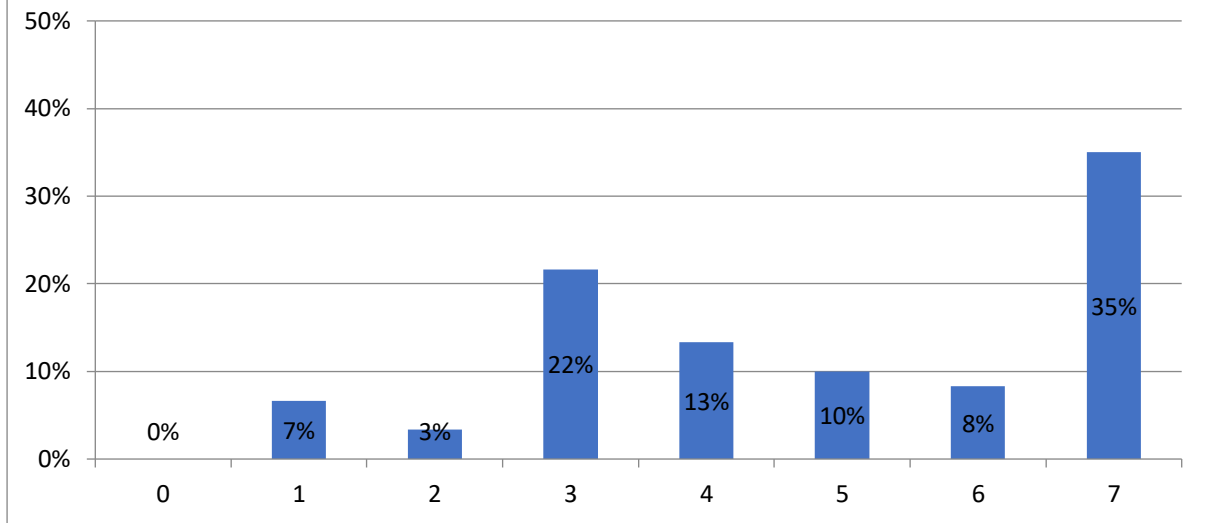
<http://theconversation.com/research-shows-the-importance-of-parents-reading-with-children-even-after-children-can-read-82756>

and 'The importance of reading aloud to big kids'

<https://www.readbrightly.com/importance-of-reading-aloud-to-big-kids/>

AH shared data from student survey (Summer 2019) which showed attitudes and behaviours towards learning.

How many times a week do you read at home? Overall



AH noted that whilst it was encouraging the largest percentage was 7 days a week – there were too many children reading 4 or less times a week.

Strategies to support reading at home were shared including ‘Teach your little monster to read’

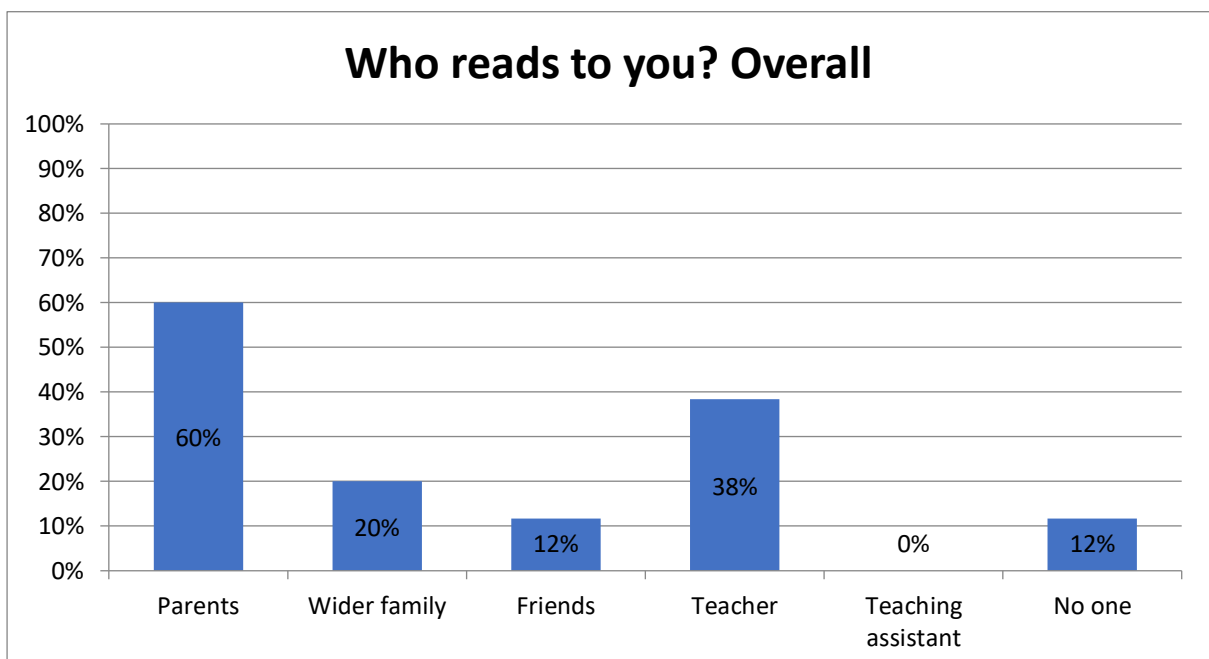
<https://www.teachyourmonstertoread.com/>

and ‘Read theory’

<https://readtheory.org/>

and advice sites including: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/grownups/making-time-for-books-at-home>, www.bookstrust.org.uk

Who reads to you? Overall



AH shared new school initiatives for reading including:

- Book corners in classroom
- Daily guided reading groups
- Regular reading from class teachers to children
- Monitoring home reading and offering support to those parents not regularly reading at home
- High profile of reading across the school

Any suggestions from parents to engage children in reading are welcomed.

Any donations of books for the school would be gratefully received to maintain interest.

It was requested that the 'Class reads' be shared in the newsletter so parents could follow this up at home.

A training session/video on reciprocal reading skills would be appreciated to show types of question they could ask.

School lunches

A discussion point was raised via email that some pupils were finding school dinners chewy and were not keen to have them.

AH explained school dinners are subcontracted to Norse and all feedback would be passed on. Parents' around the table did not note any similar messages from their children.

It was raised that it would be nice for mixed age children to sit together for lunch. AH discussed the logistics of seating 80 children for lunch

A point was raised that younger children seem to have large portions. Less with the option of requesting more, may be better.

PE

A discussion point was raised about the amount of PE children receive in school.

AH explained children were entitled to 2 hours of PE a week, this may take the form of short daily sessions and a longer PE lesson.

PW explained the school had received the Sport England 'Gold' award for outstanding sport in schools.

AH will speak with staff and discuss regular PE and sport.

Parents raised a discussion point about morning activities and daily exercise – are there parents with expertise who can facilitate this?

Discussion about the OCRA 13 and weekly mile.

Advance notice of activities

Parents requested as much notice as possible for future activities such as World Book Day. AH explained advance notice will be given, for example Christmas dates are available now.

Clarity on timings and children involved was requested for Christmas dates

Next Parents' forum

18th November at 9am.

22nd January at 3.30pm

Meeting closed at 14.25