

Item no 4

From: richard darke [mailto:]

Sent: 20 June 2012 17:04

To: Morris Smith

Subject: RE: Deputation

Morris

The main points are

- Why can they not have a 2nd teacher for P1 as they have had over the past 2 years?The HMI reported that this was working well especially as there are many disadvantaged children which will can get extra help.
- Why have the increase in housing projects in the area not been taken into consideration? many more familes coming to the area.what happens if another catholic family move into the area but their is no space,
- Why did the decision to close Burdiehouse not take into account the number of young children in the area that will require a place at St Catherines? They department has admitted that the number of children in the area had increased but a school was still closed for short term savings.
- Where have the other children that have got a place come from?Most of the parents choose the school when they choose their nursery so as to get them settled- why only 11 out of 20 got a place at the school.
- Why do the children that have siblings at the school not have a place? many parents are not able to manage 2 different pick up times, especially if there are after school clubs etc. 5 year olds do not understand why they do not go to the same school as their siblings and not want to go to school-if they do not get a space then they have to take siblings out of the school and try to find a place for all their children.
- Some parents have mentioned about home schooling their children instead of having all their children at separate schools which is not the best for their childrens future but they feel they do not have a choice.
 - Why has Gracemount been given a 2ndteacher?It is already limited in space especially at public areas, there are children on the waiting list for gracemount which cannot get a place as it is taken up by children who want to go to St Catherines as they are already at the St catherines nursery. The solution to free up spaces and not to overcrowd gracemount would be to have a 2nd teacher at st Catherines.
- There are 32 children leaving the school in P7 so there is space for another 32 in with the classroom previously accomodating 34 children. The school can easily accomodate 34 pupils and a 2nd teacher and in fact benefits from them. The P2 for next year will not need a 2nd teacher as they are below 30 so the number of teachers at the school will not change
- There are 425 signatures for a 2nd teacher and 60 on ipetitions. Lots of public support

Kind Regards

Richard

From: richard darke [mailto:]

Sent: 19 June 2012 21:47

To: Morris Smith

Cc: Norma Hart

Subject: Re: Deputation

Morris

We would like to make a deputation at the children and families council committee meeting on the 21st June from the parent council of St Catherines Primary school regarding the P1

intake. There will be myself , Sarah Ross and Sarah Phelan.

Can you let me know this is ok.

Kind Regards

Richard Darke

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