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Dear Parent / Carer,

School Uniform – Again!

There has been quite a reaction to my previous letter regarding trying to tidy up the uniform for next session! There is a strong feeling from some that the Navy-Black combination suggested will not work. We need to find a compromise on this, if the aim of a consistent uniform which is affordable for all is to be reached.

Here are some facts:

1. This attempt to get consistency was at the request of some parents and teachers (ie not my idea!), who felt that there was too much variation in the school's uniform.
2. Although the school navy sweatshirt is still widely worn, navy trousers for boys and dresses for girls have become the dress of the minority. Far more wear different shades of grey or black at present.
3. Very few children wear navy shoes with navy trousers/skirts. This seems to me to blur the navy/black argument.
4. It is much easier and cheaper to source black or grey trousers, skirts, etc than navy, although I'm told that the local Tesco has started to get supplies of navy school clothes.
5. A clear majority of the 39 families who returned the original questionnaire ticked black for trousers/skirts. It has been suggested that they maybe didn't understand that this was with the navy sweatshirt, which is possible.

So.....how to move forward? It is late this session for too much change, but we can make a start, I think.

What needs decided is:

1. Should navy still be the colour of the school's sweatshirt?
2. If yes, what colour should other garments be?
3. If no, what colour should we be moving to? This cannot happen for next session, but we could look to a change for the session after.

As a compromise, I'd like to suggest that we adopt a middle ground for P1-6 for next session:

- Navy Sweatshirt with white shirt and school tie or white polo
- Charcoal Grey Trousers/Skirt/Pinafore
- Black shoes.

We can then look to change this further next session if needed. The black-white-black P7 uniform with special tie could remain.

I'd like to get a final resolution to this next week, so I'll put preference slips out at Parents Evenings next week so that you can indicate what you'd prefer. This will give a higher response rate, hopefully. If there is no clear consensus /agreement, we'll just need to leave things alone for next session. I hope this addresses the concerns raised this week, whilst acknowledging the other opinions already given in the recent questionnaire.

Yours sincerely,

A. Macgregor
Head Teacher