

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
Analysis of parental questionnaires – November 2018

Context

In order to evaluate the views of our parents and carers, our annual questionnaire was issued for analysis by our SLT. The questionnaires were issued at the beginning of the autumn Half term 2 and the results were analysed in November 2018. The results are listed below.

This summary is based on 78 returned questionnaires.

		Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't Know
1.	My child is happy at this school	72%	26%	1%		1%
	My child settled well with an excellent transition supported by all staff. My child is very happy in school and runs into class with no problems – they do like to know when and who will be collecting them and they like this reassurance. My child really enjoys school. A lovely class with a very strong bond with the teacher. I've have had some issues with peer groups with my child but this has resolved now. I strongly agree considering the individual challenges that my child has overcome. We are new to school and our child has settled so well.					
2.	My child feels safe at this school	80%	18%	1%		1%
	We agree, but our child suffers from anxiety and school help with this. My child is confident with their environment and their teachers. My child loves coming to school and loves telling me everything about their day and shares this proudly.					
3.	My child makes good progress at this school	70%	27%			3%
	I am very happy with the progress in writing and my child's keenness to improve. Our child has made huge personal achievements. It is too early to tell but it looks very promising. Our child has only just started at the school, however I can already see progress in specific areas. <i>We continue to ask parents to contact their class teacher if they would like further information about their child's progress. This is in addition to the open classroom events, parents evening and show and share sessions. If you are unsure on your child's progress, please arrange a meeting with your child's class teacher via the school office.</i>					
4.	My child is taught well at this school	80%	20%			
	For our family, the support has been fantastic. My child has a lovely relationship with his teacher; she is very sensitive to his needs. There has been massive amounts of support for our child who is behind to helping him improve. My child's teacher has been amazing in supporting our child with the settling process. I am very happy with my child's teaching this year.					
5.	My child receives appropriate homework for their age	42%	35%	3%	1%	19%
	We are not keen on Mathletics for homework. Spellings and Mathletics provide the right amount of homework. Our child loves Mathletics and Spellodrome. There is just the right amount of homework. Homework shouldn't be set in the holidays. My child needs lots of support to complete the homework tasks. Mathletics and Spellodrome keep us very busy in the week. Mathletics and Spellodrome does not help my SEND child. I feel my child could be pushed more with their homework. We haven't started homework yet which we feel is right as our child is in foundation. There is clear appropriate progression in homework from one year to the next. Much is online and I would be happier with my child spending less time on the computer. We love Mathletics and Spellodrome. Many parents ticked 'don't know' as their children are in the foundation stage and not yet receiving homework. <i>We continue to set homework in line with the outcomes of last year's parent homework questionnaire. We have been pleased with many of the alterations made last year to create a more evenly balanced approach to the types of homework set. Please see our homework policy on our website for more information.</i>					

6.	This school ensures the pupils are well behaved	77%	23%			
	Poor behaviour has been dealt with swiftly and there are clear boundaries. I don't know enough about all pupils to be able to comment; however, from what I see, the children's behaviour is very good. I strongly agree but feel staff should be less behaviouristic. Children seem to behave very well and if behaviour is a problem, it seems to get dealt with. During assemblies children have fantastic behaviour – it is outstanding.					
7.	This school is well led and managed	72%	27%			1%
	I definitely agree. The school is incredibly well managed with a very supportive Senior Leadership Team.					
8.	This school responds well to any concern I raise	59%	24%			17%
	I have not had any concerns which is a good thing. It was clear that my concern that I raised was passed on which is good to hear. No concerns raised to date. I rarely have concerns; all comments in previous questionnaire were addressed personally. Fortunately, we do not have any concerns, however, I strongly believe that if we did, they would be actioned immediately. The school promptly and appropriately responds to any concerns I have raised. I don't know, I haven't had any.					
9.	I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress	58%	42%			
	We get valuable information at parents' evening. Show and share sessions are good. I receive a lot of emails. Emails can be excessive; can these be condensed into one email. Some information could come a little sooner or be more detailed. We get a lot of emails and it can be easy to miss something. I like the information we receive at parents' evening and the show and share sessions.					
10.	I would recommend this school to another parent	83%	17%			
	Absolutely, I am very proud of our school, parish and community. The Catholic ethos is very strong and is evident throughout school life. Thank you to all of the team that work so tirelessly.					
11.	Has your child ever been a victim of bullying at the school?	Yes 3%	No 97%	One parent said it wasn't bullying as a child hadn't intentionally upset their child, but pointed out at their child had been upset by the situation. They went on to say that they were very happy with the way in which the concern was dealt with in school.		
11a.	If yes, were you happy with the way in which school dealt with it?	Yes 100%	No			
	Your comments about positive aspects of the school in the last 12 months:					
	Stimulating lessons and now better links with the community. The text messaging communication is excellent. I really like the weekly newsletter. The FOSJ events are good. A positive aspect are the school trips and enrichments activities. Collective worship is very moving. My contact with the SENCO has been really helpful. When I had a concern, the issue was dealt with and sorted within a few hours. Excellent communication and I feel confident that if I had any other concerns, these would be handled in the same way. Pupil centred approach this year has been priceless. Open communication has been excellent. I really like the family mass and show and share sessions. Buddy System – very good idea and it helped my child to settle well at dinnertime. The difference I have seen in my daughter since she has been at St Joseph's is amazing. She is more outgoing and confident than before. We have only been part of the school since September 2018, however, the welcome we have received					

	<p>from both staff and other parents has been magnificent. The after-school activities and clubs are excellent. Golden book assembly and show and share are a fantastic way to involve parents. Teaching about having a Growth mind set is very valuable. My child has been encouraged to grow in confidence and become more emotionally secure. High quality teaching and learning environments. School clearly demonstrates Gospel values in inclusion of different children and talents. I am absolutely delighted with my child's transition from FS2 to Year1 and how much the staff supported this. The warmth received from both staff and pupils has been tremendous, this has played a main part in my child settling into the school so well. The regular communication about what the children are doing in school and regular opportunities to come in to assemblies- open classrooms – show and share sessions. Clear evidence of progress, opportunities to come into school. The mile a day is an extremely good idea. Being kept up to date via text / email is so useful. Enjoy golden book assemblies – very inclusive, the children are very well behaved and respectful to one another. My child loves to come to school, she has developed in so many ways and we are delighted with all the teachers she has had as they have helped and supported her. Lovely to see more extra curriculum activities. There is a growing care for the wellbeing of others, through the Mini Vinnies etc. The Mini Vinnies is a great way of teaching children to put others before themselves. Good communication to parents and approachability of staff. The dedication of staff is clear to see and how they try to include every child. A safe and happy school. Staff work ethos is excellent, working with each and every child so well. I like the way that they set challenges which improve my child's learning. I have been overwhelmed with how friendly the other children are and their interaction with the younger children. Behaviour is very good and it feels like a lovely community. I love the buddy scheme. The community that we and our children feel very much a part of. The behaviour of the children is noticeable, to such a high standard. Our children are very happy at school.</p>
	<p>Your comments about aspects of school that you feel we could improve:</p> <p>I receive a number of emails about various things, it would be better to condense these and include different attachments in one email. I would like to receive less emails and texts from school. I would like to see different afterschool clubs for children to attend. More races at sports day. More lessons and activities outside and using the woods when the weather is good. I would like to know when my child's class is presenting in golden book for collective worship. Promote a culture of making mistakes and then learning from these in school. The girls should be allowed to wear trousers once out of nursery. I have no comments on how the school could improve – I am very happy with everything. I am very happy with current practices. School hot dinners. Reduce paper and use more online communication methods. Improve access to the rear playground. Make further links with pupils as to why children need to learn specific skills e.g. maths. More parent information evenings. E.g. phonics and Mathletics/Spellodrome. Currently I have no suggestions on how the school could improve.</p>

Results

There is an overwhelmingly positive response from parents and carers in all aspects of the parent questionnaire. We thank our parents and carers for the detailed comments that outline all of the aspects of school that families are very happy with.

We continue to work in partnership with our parents and carers to ensure we continue to provide the very best provision and promote the very best outcomes for each of our pupils.

We are very proud of our key strengths that have been identified by our parents and carers and we are very pleased with overwhelmingly high responses in the following areas:

- My child is happy at school
- My child feels safe at school
- My child is taught well at school
- This school ensures pupils are well behaved
- The school is well lead and managed
- This school responds well to concerns that I raise*
- I receive valuable information from school
- I would recommend this school to other parents

*Many parents ticked 'don't know' to this question as they have not had any experience of raising concerns. This is extremely reassuring. Some parents went on to say that although they have no experience of raising concerns, they feel confident that should they ever need to, it would be dealt with effectively and sensitively.

Responses made to main comments outlined above:

- There has been mixed feedback to the way in which we communicate key messages to parents and carers. The mixed feedback relates to the volume of emails and texts that are received by parents. We have acted on feedback in previous years to use, where possible, paperless methods of communication and also to ensure that parents and carers have as much information as possible about key dates etc including reminders about key dates and events. Because of the many different activities and events that we organise to enrich our children's curriculum and experiences, this can mean that lots of information is shared. We now also send reminders as parents have said in previous years that this would be particularly helpful. We know it is useful for parents to see the main subject of the email and whether a particular email is of interest to them, and condensing emails with lots of attachments into one, will mean the main subject box can not be used in this way. However, we will take on board comments and where possible will try condensing various information into one email where appropriate. We do hope that this does not mean that key information is missed by parents as this can often happen when information is condensed into one email. We continue to advise parents and carers to continue to check the school website for information on key dates. We hope we can create a balance where the volume of communication is condensed without key information being missed!
- More Afterschool clubs: we continue to look for further extra-curricular opportunities for our children to access. In January our new performance afterschool club 'On the Stage' will begin. We are also planning a Lego club and a baking club which we are hoping to launch in the future. We do, however, need high enough numbers attending each club to be able to sustain these clubs and in the past, some clubs have not been very well attended. We know our children are very busy outside of school and many attend lots of different clubs outside of school. We continue to ask our children what sort of clubs they would like to attend, and where possible, we look to provide these opportunities.
- More lessons outside in the woods: Our teachers are always looking for ways to deliver exciting lessons, where pupils think about the skills that they are using in lessons and how they might put these into practice in their own lives both now and in the future. Our staff are always looking at ways to make learning hands on and active and we pride ourselves on being a Burn 2 Learn School, where children are accessing many areas of the curriculum in a physically active way. This includes activities in the classroom and outside on the playground, field or in the woods. We make use of the woods during maths lessons, as a writing stimulus, for science activities and many more areas of the curriculum.



- Promote a culture of making mistakes and learning from these mistakes: we have a growth mindset approach across school within both our pupils' academic and personal development. We encourage children to show an 'can do' attitude as well as knowing that it is ok to make mistakes. We teach our children about reconciliation and how we can learn from our mistakes. We do this alongside promoting positive behaviour and positive attitudes.
- More Parent Information Evenings: parents' information evenings are very valuable in ensuring that parents and carers hear first-hand information from staff in relation to specific areas across school including how they can support at home. The most recent parent information evenings have covered the following topics: RSE, computing and assessment. The computing and assessment information evenings were very poorly attended with the number of parents/carers attending in single figures. We will continue to provide parents' information evenings and would encourage parents/carers to come along if they can. The next parents information evening will be in the form of a parents workshop offering practical ideas for supporting reading. This will be held on Thursday 17th January 2019 in the school hall at 5pm. This workshop is for parents and carers of children in **all** classes.
- Knowing when my child's class are presenting collective worship in Golden Book: We are committed to involving our parents in their child's education and school life as much as possible. We try to, where possible, give lots of notice about events well in advance and invite parents and carers to these events. However, the short presentation at the start of each Golden Book is done on a completely voluntary basis, where staff will put their class forward to present based on what they have experienced/seen that week. This is not planned in advance and can vary from a whole class two minute presentation to a small number of children from that particular class. Because of the flexible nature of this feature of Golden Book, we are unable to provide parents with enough notice in advance of Golden Book. We will however, continue to let parents know a week in advance that their child is in the golden book.
- School hot dinners: Leeds City Council provide our hot dinners and these are regularly reviewed in line with the healthy school agenda. There is a wide range of hot food provided. The governors are currently looking into the possibility of being able to offer daily alternatives in addition to the hot meal options such as sandwiches and jacket potatoes.

In any cases where a comment was made that was personal to a child or family, where school was not already aware, parents were invited in to discuss this with the relevant member of staff and actions have been taken where necessary to offer further support or in some cases to give clarity on the situation.

Summary

We are delighted with the number of overall positive comments.

We will continue to liaise with parents to make improvements to the life of the school.

As always, should you have any concerns or would like to discuss anything further, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher, Mrs Ward (Deputy Head Teacher) or myself. Appointments can be made easily via the school office.

Thank you again for your continued support.

Miss L. Milivojevic