

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
Analysis of parental questionnaires – November 2019

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 end of the first half term and the results were analysed in November 2019. The results are listed below.

This summary is based on 58 returned questionnaires.

		Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't Know
1.	My child is happy at this school	84%	16%			
2.	My child feels safe at this school	81%	19%			
3.	My child makes good progress at this school	74%	26%			
4.	My child is taught well at this school	80%	20%			
5.	I know how to support my child at home.	78%	22%			
6.	This school ensures the pupils are well behaved	83%	17%			
7.	This school is well led and managed	83%	17%			
8.	This school responds well to any concern I raise	76%	24%			
9.	I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress	81%	19%			
10.	I would recommend this school to another parent	85%	15%			

11.	Has your child ever been a victim of bullying at the school?	Yes 5%	No 95%	
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:				
<p><i>Lots of these positive comments were duplicated several times by parents, which is great. Please note we have only put the same comments in once and have included comments directly from parents' surveys.</i></p> <p>We cannot recommend the school highly enough! Golden book is a great way for pupils to share their success inside & outside school. My child loves the school. My child is very happy at school and we are always given very good feedback from her teacher; she likes to learn and loves to come to school. JoFest was a lovely community event. Parents events, harvest festival, mass, sports day & open classrooms are all great. Reading competitions. Cupcake sale after school. Help & support from parents. Half term bulk optional homework. Burn 2 Learn. Really happy with Burn 2 Learn. I think this is absolutely brilliant, especially for boys who struggle to sit still for extended periods of time. Burn to learn introducing fun ways of learning. Minnie Vinnies & their activities. The leadership. Good Management. Handling of bullying/fallouts. Staff are amazingly friendly yet very professional in all areas. Help and support for parents. It's great to see the teachers from other classes know each child around the school. The wonderful FS1 teachers who not only support the children with the transition but also then parents. Transition into year 1 was excellent. The school continues to be supportive and happy place for the children to learn and explore and make good progress. All in all we are very pleased with how the school continues to grow our son's potential. Support from the class teacher when I was struggling to help with homework. A wonderful response from the school when issues raised. How well the school handled an incident in which my child behaved negatively. How amazing Miss Millivojevic and Mrs Holmes have been in helping my son with additional needs. SEN roadshows and Show and Shares are excellent. SEN support has been fantastic. Responsive from class teachers and Miss Milivojevic regarding minor issues raised. Felt that everything was taken seriously and given time and consideration. All teachers are supportive and caring. The continued support and open communication. The caring nature of all teachers we have worked with, and the support of the Head Teacher in a gradual and sensitive setting and in supporting the individual needs of our son. The school are constantly looking to improve or start new ventures. Newsletter and communication are great. We are very happy with the leadership and management of this school. The staff are very friendly and very professional. My child has loved her teacher's lessons and is very happy at school. My child has had a really good start to the new school year and has had lots of encouragement which has boosted her confidence when it comes to her work. The overall learning is excellent. I can see very good progress. Strong encouragement and positive approach of the teachers. My child's teacher has been fantastic and my child is keen to work hard for her. My child trusts and has confidence in their teachers. We're very happy with the school. Making the decision to stop using Spellodrome. My child has enjoyed her school trips and extra school activities such as school council. We received very good feedback about our child at the most recent parents' meeting; he is very happy at school. He is really enjoying his studies and the teachers are very supportive. Good management; we are all happy about this. SATs week was great fun!</p>				

	<p>Giving Yr6 children responsibility to increase confidence. Our daughter has really enjoyed being a buddy.</p> <p>Range of workshops available.</p> <p>Range of workshops and visitors into school.</p> <p>Bringing in theatre groups & sports celebs to inspire them.</p> <p>Improved IT facilities with I Pads to enhance technology familiarity.</p> <p>Girls football after school. Increased sports offerings.</p> <p>Football club & introduction of more matches.</p> <p>Celebrating the classroom saint.</p> <p>Minnie Vinnies and their activities, celebrating the classroom Saint and bringing the theatrical groups to inspire the children.</p> <p>Text and email info / reminders. Key dates for diaries is really helpful.</p> <p>Weekly news emails. Fantastic communication.</p> <p>Professional and friendly staff.</p> <p>Newsletter are good and easy to keep track of important dates.</p> <p>Newsletters are great.</p> <p>Constantly looking to improve or start new ventures.</p> <p>Emailed newsletter helpful.</p>
	<p>Your comments about aspects of school that you feel we could improve:</p> <p>Golden Book could be on a morning straight after drop off - less time off for working parents.</p> <p>Look into an electronic way of passing on information rather than lots of emails.</p> <p>Each week have a 'new' section on the logon part of the website.</p> <p>No homework during holidays apart from reading. A bit more of a balance between Athletics and some written mathematical homework.</p> <p>Would like more advance notice for special occasions, Christmas plays & sports days as difficult to change work commitments.</p> <p>Ratio of staff to pupils, but I appreciate this is difficult.</p> <p>Pupils not marking their own work would be good, this should be done by the teacher. Teacher should mark all homework set.</p> <p>Feedback to parents on areas to help children's development.</p> <p>Fewer Emails.</p> <p>Possibly more time on non-core subjects like art.</p> <p>Access to outdoor playing fields more.</p> <p>Text messages are often unclear and require follow up.</p> <p>Workshops on maths & phonics in FS1.</p> <p>Invite young people from the community who are trying to live/practice their faith in the real world to give talks in Yr5/6, maybe splitting boys and girls and talking about their dignity, their beauty as children of God, trying to live pure, holy lives and still be 'cool'! Being a light in the world.</p> <p>The use of the outdoor classroom as a welcoming and open space to all?</p> <p>More girls' sports teams with qualified coaches. When they get to High School they are competing for places on the sports teams. Being a member of a sports team is a valuable experience and balances the demands of academic studies.</p> <p>Personally, I'd like Golden Book assembly to be on Fridays like they used to be.</p> <p>A text on a Friday outlining events for the following week? (non uniform days etc?)</p> <p>A text on a Friday to show events for following week?</p> <p>Lots of parents said they did not currently have any ideas to offer on how to improve St Joseph's and are very happy with all aspects of school.</p>
	<p>How often do you access the school website and for what purpose:</p> <p><i>A variety of responses were given ranging from weekly to a couple of times per month to check the calendar to looking at the children's year group pages to see an update on the learning journey and to look at photos of their child's learning.</i></p> <p>A few times a week - updates from the class room, diary events.</p> <p>Sporadically to check the calendar or to see photos of what my children are doing in class.</p> <p>When needed for training days and school calendar.</p> <p>Monthly for updates on school events.</p> <p>I like the photos of what the children are doing in school and the year calendar.</p> <p>I check the calendar weekly and also the class pages to see photos.</p> <p>At least a couple of times a term to see what my daughter is learning and also to check the calendar.</p> <p>Fortnightly to look at what children have been up to.</p> <p>Once or twice a month to see what the class are doing.</p> <p>Not very often as we get newsletters and text messages to keep us informed.</p> <p>Rarely but I do for term dates, class news and staff information.</p> <p>Occasionally to check any new updates.</p>

<p>Between Tapestry, emails received (and information sent home), and the FOSJ / year groups networks, so far the only access to the school website has been to check dates and information once a week or so.</p> <p>Once or twice a year to check school holidays and training days.</p> <p>Check calendar, children to see work uploaded and to see what the term topics are.</p> <p>Once per month for calendar, class updates and photos. Once per month for class newsletter, updates, calendar and photos.</p> <p>Occasionally – The newsletters are very comprehensive and are the first point of reference.</p> <p>Two to three times per term, to check picture, tapestry is first reference point.</p> <p>Two to three times per term, to check pictures, keep updated on curriculum learning material.</p> <p>Weekly for general information such as term dates.</p> <p>Not very often.</p> <p>Timetable for holidays.</p>
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Results

We had 58 responses back and it is very pleasing to see such an overwhelmingly positive response to each area. We continue to work in daily partnership with parents and we are extremely grateful for your ongoing feedback and support which enables us to continue to make improvements and provide the very best for our pupils.

Responses made to main comments outlined above:

If you ticked yes to the question, 'my child has been a victim of bullying in this school' and this has not been discussed with your class teacher and a senior member of the team, please speak directly with me. It is essential that your child's class teacher and a senior member of staff are made aware if you think your child has been bullied. As always, please do speak to a member of staff if you have any concerns at all, so that we can work with you to resolve the issue.

Below we have responded to the welcome comments from parents and carers. Thank you once again for your input. We hope the comments we have made help clarify the things already in place that you may not be aware of, but also where we have taken the comments on board.

Change the time/day of Golden Book – We appreciate that the time of golden book celebration assembly does not suit all parents and that this can be difficult to attend from time to time. Unfortunately, due to the busy school timetable, we are unable to alter the time or day of the assembly. We do, however, send out the awards a week in advance and as always, if you make contact with us should there be a problem in you attending one week, we can always make alternative arrangements by moving this to a week that is more suitable for a parent. Please note that since the change of time to golden book, we have had our highest number of adults attending and have had to bring the start time forward twice last year due to the rising number of awards being brought in from home and handed out from school. This is absolutely fantastic!

Look into an electronic way of passing on information rather than lots of emails – We get lots of positive feedback about the communication between home and school with lots of parents welcoming the important information that is shared via email. Lots of information is put onto the school website but important information and any letters are shared via email.

A 'new' section on the home page of the school website – This is a great idea and we are looking into this! Thank you!

No homework during holidays apart from reading. A bit more of a balance between Mathletics and some written mathematical homework – The variety of homework given out during the holidays is usually optional and a great way for pupils to complete some activities linked to the new topics they will be studying after the half term break. Lots of the activities can fit well into some of the things you may be doing as a family during the holidays like taking a walk in the park where you might be able to use your senses to describe what you can hear and see. These hopefully provide a little variety from the online based homework set. We will also take on board the feedback about a further balance between online and written/practical maths homework which we know the children do enjoy!

Advance notice for special occasions – Many of the special occasions and events are put on the school website up to a year in advance. The calendar is regularly updated and there are key dates on there up until the end of the academic year. We hope you find this useful.

Ratio of staff to pupils – We are very lucky that we have at least two adults assigned to each year group and in some cases, this is even higher. Each class has a fully qualified teacher (from nursery to year 6) and a

teaching assistant or higher level teaching assistant. We have a non-class based part time SENCO and inclusion lead who works with all of our SEN children and other vulnerable groups and so therefore works in all classes. In addition, we have an additional 3 day teaching position that works across classes, providing additional support and delivery to pupils. This structure supports us in being able to provide specialised and personalise provision for all pupils.

Pupils not marking their own work – This is called self-marking and has huge value! When children mark or assess a partner's piece of work, this is called peer marking. Self and peer marking is carefully planned and is a challenging skill but one in which the children hugely benefit from. It provides them with the chance to reflect on the steps to success with the learning objective to pick out and recognise these things within a context. To identify these used within a range of contexts deepens their learning and allows them to learn from misconceptions and successes! We will always use this alongside teacher marking at St Joseph's as we recognise the huge benefits of self and peer marking.

Feedback to parents on areas to help children's development – We provide many opportunities to share information with parents including parents evening, parent information evening sessions, show and share, half termly newsletter, open classroom evenings, class and curriculum pages on the school website, SEND support page on the school website. In addition, class teachers may ask to speak directly with parents about more specific support for individuals. If you would like to discuss anything specific about your child, please arrange to speak to your child's class teacher who will be happy to help.

Possibly more time on non-core subjects like art – We are very proud of our creative and personalised curriculum and one where we ensure coverage and progression across all areas of the curriculum. Please check out school class pages on the school website to see the weekly non-core activities the children get up to!

More access to outdoor playing fields – As a Burn 2 Learn school we utilise the fantastic school grounds on a daily basis for all areas of the curriculum. The children use the field and outdoor areas including the woods regularly and this provides an excellent stimulus for learning.

Workshops on maths and phonics in FS1 – There are a number of planned show and share sessions planned in December 2019 and January 2020. We hope you will find these visits useful. If you would like any further support with any areas of the early years, please speak with a member of the team who will be more than happy to help.

Invite young people from the community who are trying to live/practice their faith in the real world – As part of our curriculum intent, we are always inviting people into school to speak with our children for a range of different reasons. If you know of someone who might be able to offer their time to share their work, skills or expertise with the children, please arrange to speak with Mrs Ward who coordinates these visits in line with our curriculum intent.

Use the outdoor classroom as a welcome space for all – The school council, along with Mrs Holmes have made this their project this year, so we hope you will see some improvement in this area over the coming year. They have some excellent ideas!

More opportunities for girls' sports teams and competitive sport for girls – This is already a whole school focus for us this year. With the support of some of our volunteer parents coaching and leading the boys' football teams, we have been able to invest and focus time with both Miss Mac and Miss Collier who are leading just the girls' football and netball teams this year. This will involve more opportunities for training and competitive matches. Miss Mac is also working alongside PE Partner to further develop the opportunities in sports, especially for the girls.

Summary

We are extremely pleased with the overwhelmingly positive results from the parent survey. We strive to ensure that any concerns or queries you may have during the school year are addressed with the upmost professionalism and are quickly and effectively resolved. Likewise, we also welcome the positive feedback from parents to highlight what you think is working well in school. I would like to thank all of our parents who work in partnership with us to ensure we continue to strive for the very best outcomes for our pupils.

Please can I encourage parents to visit the school website. There is a wealth of information on the website including additional and creative ways to support with learning at home, gain an insight into your child's

learning journey so far and to check out the news in many different areas in school including the work of the school council, Mini Vinnies, the school sports teams and much, much more!

As always, I welcome any comments you may have throughout the year. Please do not hesitate to speak to myself or Mrs Ward, the deputy head teacher.

Thank you again for your continued support.

Miss L. Milivojevic

Head Teacher