

Parent Questionnaire Feedback: Autumn 2015

What do we do well?

- Teaching is of a high standard. Teachers teach my child to read, write and count really well and the children are involved in hands on learning. My child is given helpful and appropriate targets to work towards. The needs and abilities of individual children are recognised and their needs are supported.
- Extra-curricular activities are varied, enjoyable and develop skills that are of worth. The children enjoy the school trips they go on. Parents noted that their children enjoyed the Go Active P.E lessons, after school clubs and holiday clubs.
- Getting parents involved and communicating with parents. A number of parents commented that the newsletters were helpful and informative.
- New initiatives put in place this year have proved popular with children and parents/ carers and encourages their child's motivation to learn; for example, the Accelerated Reader and Reading Karate incentives. Parents also appreciated the Aspiration Passports and the Celebration of Learning event, which gave parents the opportunity to look at the children's learning environments and their work this year.
- Staff are approachable, encouraging and supportive of children and their families. It was noted that the school listens to parents and pupils and is continually trying to improve. Leadership is fantastic, trustworthy and reliable.
- The school raises my child's aspirations and my child has become more confident since starting school. Despite the building work that has been going on, the children are well organised and the school provides a safe, happy environment and new children have settled well. The school is good at helping children make friends when they join.

And most importantly

- My child enjoys coming to school and learning.

What could we do better?

We appreciate all the constructive feedback that we receive from parents. So that you know we value your opinions and ideas, we have traffic lighted (a system of seeing how much we have progressed that we commonly use in school) to let you know what we have done since the Autumn 2014 feedback questionnaire. Green is good, orange means that there is room for improvement and red means that we have not achieved the desired result. Autumn 2015 suggestions and views are detailed overleaf.

<u>What could we do better? (Autumn 2014 Questionnaire)</u>	<u>What we did</u>
Change the morning routine so all children go straight into class because it can be very hectic in the playground/hall.	Our morning routine has been altered so that, for the past year, children go straight into their classrooms between 8.45am and 9am. Staff are located at key points to ensure the children's safety and so that parents can speak with them to pass messages or concerns on to them. This change has had a positive impact on the children's learning because they are able to do additional English-based tasks which gets all children in a positive learning mindset.
Promote walking to school to lessen traffic and parking issues.	Car parking was noted as a point for improvement in this year's questionnaire as well. We will continue to promote walking to school, or car sharing schemes where appropriate, to lessen the amount of cars parking around the school site. We are also looking into alternative off road parking options.
Longer notification of events, especially if the date of an event has changed.	We have started to include an 'important dates' section on all newsletters that gives good notice of school events. Communication with parents, has been noted as something we are doing well in this year's questionnaire.
Reconsider how clubs are cancelled as cancelling a club at short notice can really inconvenience parents.	We have reviewed our procedure and club cancellations are included in the newsletter at least the week before. However, there are some instances where we have no other option but to cancel a club at the last minute and we try our best to communicate this to parents as soon as possible. This was noted as a point for improvement again this year and so we will continue to improve on this.
Ensure reading books are changed when completed.	The new reading schemes in place (accelerated reader and reading karate) has meant that children are keen to read at home because they enjoy taking part in the reading quizzes to test their comprehension. As well as increasing their reading and understanding skills, this has the added bonus of the children being very proactive in changing their reading books!
More explanation of the homework and how it should be completed.	This was still noted as an issue by KS2 parents in the most recent questionnaire. Homework completed by year 5 on Education City often gives further explanation regarding the task expected. The class letters gives some explanation of what homework will be sent home with the children (e.g. times table or spelling practice) and what is expected in general terms. If your child does not understand their homework, please speak with your child's class teacher and they will go over it with them to ensure they understand the task.
Help younger children get changed after P.E. and check children have their own uniform before going home.	Younger children are supported with getting changed but we do encourage their independence also. Please can parents ensure all items of clothing are named. This was noted as a continuing issue this year in KS1 classes. We will continue to support the children and work towards increasing their independence in dressing themselves as the year progresses.
Provide more information on what has been happening at	This was still a point for improvement suggested by multiple parents, indicating that despite the numerous measures put in place in the last year, we still are not communicating children's progress

school each day and my child's progress. Possibly through communication booklets?	effectively. We continue to increase how much information regarding your child's progress we give back to you. In addition to Parents' Evenings and School Reports, we now have implemented Celebration of Learning events so that you can come into school and have a look at your child's work books and learning environments and the Accelerated Reader Scheme will give you more feedback on your child's reading and comprehension competency as the year progresses. This year, we are also trialling an Early Years programme so share how each Reception child is progressing on a more frequent basis and to share their learning journeys with parents and carers. Should this prove to be an effective way of communicating with parents, we will use this for all parents of Reception children. We will be looking at using the Blog feature on our website to let you know what each class has been doing on a more frequent basis.
Staff to be more aware of home life so sensitive issues can be taken into account when studying certain topics.	In this year's questionnaire, parents felt that the school takes into account a families concerns and is understanding and supportive

<u>What we could do better</u> <u>Autumn 2015 Questionnaire</u>	<u>Follow up from School</u>
Communication with non-resident parents.	We currently put all newsletters on the website which detail the key events taking place at school, including dates for Parents' Evening, school performances and school photographs. We have systems in place for providing non-resident parents with other key information, such as school reports, but these will be reviewed and amended as necessary this year to ensure the system is fit for purpose.
Send parents newsletters by email rather than paper copies because it will save paper/ My child does not get a newsletter.	We are always happy to save paper where we can. The newsletters are all uploaded on to the website but if you would prefer to receive the newsletter by email rather than a paper copy, please let Miss Dash know.
P.T.A and more parent involvement	We would love for parents to be really proactive and take a lead on some of our fundraising events. If any parents or carers would like to commit to a Parent Teacher Association, please let us know!
Listen to the children read in school more.	In the first term's class letter, each class detailed at the beginning of the year how often children would read with an adult during school hours. If you have concerns that your child is not reading in school, please speak with your child's class teacher in the first instance.
Closer links with the onsite nursery that provides wraparound care so that before and after school clubs link more with school activities and so that the nursery is open when working parents need it the most, e.g. during school holidays and on INSET days.	Although the nursery is on site and we work closely with them when transitioning children from pre-school into Reception, Nippers is completely separate from the school and we have no authority to insist they open at certain times of the year. We have, however, passed this feedback on to Nippers to make them aware of the community's need for childcare provision outside of term time.
Better choice of school meals and the menu to be changed more often/ Review of school meals as some are not child friendly.	We have passed this feedback on to Chartwells, the company who provides our school meals for their information. We understand that children can be particular about what they eat but it is always nice to give them the option of trying something new. Chartwells also spoke with our school council last half term to gather their views on school dinners.
Listen to parents more	We go out of our way to ensure that parents are given the opportunity to express their thoughts and opinions, e.g. parent questionnaires, Parent View and monthly Parent Forums. We always take the views of the parents into account and use it to move the school forward. If you feel that you are not being listened to, please speak with Ms Marsden or let Miss Dash know and we will certainly rectify that as soon as possible.
Introduce different clubs (e.g. self-defence classes) and more clubs for younger children.	We are constantly trying to vary clubs, for example this year we introduced photography, arts and crafts, creative writing and needlework in addition to our more established and popular clubs. However, without having an adult who would be able to run a club, such as self-defence, we would not be able to offer it. We will make contact with Byrne Blackbelt Academy to see if they can run a club, however there will be a cost for their club. We will change the clubs again next term and offer more for younger children now that they are settled at school.
More holiday clubs	Unfortunately, due to the building work that has been taking place this year, we have been limited as to the number of holiday clubs we can offer. If there is sufficient demand for an increased number of holiday clubs, we are more than happy to make arrangements for these to take place once the building work has been completed.