



St. Oswald's R.C. Primary School



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Living, Learning and Loving together with Christ

Dear Families,

I am writing to share the feedback we received from the parental questionnaires we carried out earlier in the year. The percentages below refer to those who either 'Agreed' or 'Strongly Agreed':

My child enjoys school – **99%**

My child is making good progress – **96%**

Children are encouraged to behave well – **100%**

I can discuss problems with the school – **97%**

The school enables my child to achieve a good standard of work – **99%**

I am informed about my child's progress – **96%**

I am satisfied with the work that my child is expected to do at home – **90%**

Staff expect my child to work hard and do his or her best – **97%**

The school's values and attitudes have a positive effect upon my child – **100%**

Staff encourage my child to become mature and independent – **99%**

Opportunities are given to celebrate and share achievements – **97%**

The school provides enough opportunities for my child to develop in their Catholic faith – **99%**

The school keeps my child safe – **100%**

A number of those who responded provided ideas on how we can help move the school forward. Please find details and responses to these below and over the page:

More frequent updates on children's progress

A small number of you stated that the progress your child is making could be provided more frequently. We currently offer a Parents' Evening in the Autumn and Spring Term and a written report at Christmas and in the Summer. We continue to operate an 'open door' policy, so if you do have any concerns about your child's progress, please speak to your child's teacher as soon as possible. If you feel you need to discuss the matter further, you are welcome to make an appointment to see me.

Improvements to the playgrounds

It was suggested that the playgrounds in both the Infants and Juniors could do with being improved/updated. We have completed significant work in the Infant Yard with the introduction of a decked seating area, new yard markings, a basketball post and playground signs. We hope to upgrade the Junior yard next academic year.



A regularly updated Website

A number of you asked if we could publish more current information and photographs on our school website. We have launched a completely new website and have included a Twitter Feed and Class Blogs (two features that were also requested) which provide regular photographs, videos and information about what the children have been doing in class. The Calendar keeps parents updated about dates of events and activities in school. We have also included a page for the PTA and any information and events, including the 200 Club, are regularly updated. We hope the website will provide a valuable insight into school life.

Share children's sporting achievements at Sports Day

Several responses included the request for parents to be invited to Sports Day. We listened, and this year, both Infants and Junior Sports day were very well attended and enjoyed by a number of families. It provided a great atmosphere and received many positive comments – thank you.

Homework

The issue of homework also received a number responses. Some parents thought the children receive too much homework while others thought it was too little. We will continue to assess the level and regularity of homework but if parents ever feel that their child is finding difficulties in completing it, please contact their class teacher without delay.

School Holidays

We appreciate that the dates of school holidays do not always coincide with our feeder High Schools. We always do our best to make sure that this is not the case but in exceptional circumstances this is not always possible. We had a longer half term break in the Summer Term this year and only one week at Easter. Along with a number of other Catholic primary schools in Newcastle this year, this was decided due to the fact that Easter was very late and the children in Year 6 would have only had 4 days back at school before beginning their SATs tests. In order to give them the best possible opportunity to succeed, we changed the holidays to suit this.

Extra-curricular activities/After school clubs

It was requested that more after school clubs could be offered with a range of opportunities other than just sports clubs being provided. We provided more After-school opportunities than we have previously and these included Football, Judo, Cross-country, Netball, Gymnastics, Metafit and Multi-skills. Non-sporting clubs included Drama, French, Fun & Games, Mini-Vinnies and Eco-club. We will look at offering even more opportunities in the new academic year.

I would like to thank you for the feedback that you provided and wanted to update you with any progress that we have made to try and address any areas of concern or improvement.

With best wishes,



Mr P Marley

