



STICKLAND'S C.E. V.A.

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Summer Lane
Evershot
Dorchester
Dorset DT2 0JP

Headteacher:
Mrs Kathy McCann BSc NPQH

Tel/Fax: 01935 83287
office@sticklands.dorset.sch.uk

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Dear Parents / Carers,

Another year is nearly over and I suspect that all at Stickland's are looking forward to their summer break, I hope the fine weather continues. We wish all the very best to children who are leaving at the end of the year, and hope that they will take all the positive things that they have learnt at Stickland's away with them.

May I thank all those who replied to the parent's questionnaire, they covered just over a third of the school.

Communication was an area that appeared to raise issues for some respondents (whilst others were extremely happy). Stickland's is unusual in encouraging teachers to send messages. This occasionally lets mixed messages get through, though we think we have overcome that problem. Using many routes to send messages is necessary in West Dorset, where some do not have internet and others cannot get a mobile phone signal. Despite some people feeling bombarded with messages, many parents still question staff as to arrangements for different days and activities. Please ensure that you do read any letters and messages that are sent home, and staff will try to ensure that these are as concise and clear as possible.

We have also worked hard to get and keep the school website more up to date. We recognise this is a never-ending task, but hope it carries the information that you need.

Homework was less of a polar issue this year. The home-learning folders seem to allow the flexibility and support for most people. Behaviour sanctions were also raised. The children will be revisiting the expectations and sanction system in the Autumn term, and we will send a copy home so that you are aware of what happens in school.

Overall the vast majority of the comments were very positive. Progress, teaching, links between parents and school and the support that children receive academically were all praised. We were also extremely pleased of the references to the family feel of the school, how children and staff support each other, Forest School, and how important the pastoral care and well-being of the children is to us. These are the really important things that we believe make Stickland's unique.



The governors would also like to thank those parents and others who come in to help with the children's reading. We would welcome a few more in particular any men who would like to help in this area, as this provides a positive role model for the children.

Governors have also worked hard to help the school be confident that when next Ofsted come to inspect us we shall return to the standard of Good. This is not the end of our work as obviously we would like us to achieve Outstanding, whilst retaining our happy and supportive relationships between all children and staff. Our statutory test data this year once again reflected the hard work of the children and staff. You can see a comparison of data on the school website. Well done to all of the children for their successes.

We remain part of the West Dorset Schools Collaboration. West Dorset Schools Collaboration is a group of schools working closely together to share their experience and expertise, support each other and improve children's learning opportunities. The purpose is to enable every young person to access outstanding opportunities to learn, which we believe can be achieved by working together.

We have been able to work with others to ensure good staff training, and to access services such as Speech and Language support, and a Counsellor, which we would otherwise be unable to afford.

One of the welcome developments is that we have many applications from parents of new pupils in all year groups and next September will see the school with the largest number of pupils for many years.

I wish you all a very pleasant summer.

Yours sincerely,



Richard Campbell

Chairman of Stickland's Governors