



Porthleven School.

Torleven Road

Porthleven

Helston

Cornwall TR13 9BX

website: www.porthleven.cornwall.sch.uk

Friday 27th January 2017

Thank you to the parents who completed the parent survey just before Christmas. We had 30 returns and overall they were very positive with very high levels of satisfaction.

The questionnaire is taken from the OFSTED parent questionnaire and has 37 questions, some of which appear contradictory.

The highest satisfaction or approval was shown for the following statements;

- My child has friends at school.
- I feel welcome when I come into school.
- The classrooms are clean, tidy and attractive and provide an effective working environment for my child.
- The outdoor environment is effective at supporting creativity and learning.
- The school's values and attitudes have a positive effect on my child.
- The school treats my child fairly.
- My child enjoys playtimes and lunchtimes.
- The school helps to promote a healthy lifestyle.
- I think the members of staff at the school are approachable.
- Parent consultation meetings provide me with the information I require about my child's progress and achievement.
- Newsletters provide me with clear information regarding what has happened in school but also about future events.
- I feel that I can approach the school if I have a concern.
- The school has been led and managed well.
- The school encourages parents and guardians to play an active part in school life.

The areas identified as points for development were largely in the following categories;

1. Behaviour of pupils and how they are addressed.
2. Site security.
3. The number of after school clubs.
4. Most common was the feeling that parents did not have enough information about their child's learning, the progress they are making and the amount or type of homework that is expected.

1. We have over 260 pupils in school and there are always times when children fall out. We have a very clear behaviour policy and the vast majority follow the school rules. The school understands that the only way to improve behaviour is through positive reinforcement and working to support the pupils in making better choices. I have met with two families this year to resolve friendship issues. These parents and pupils are now much happier. I encourage any parent or child who is unhappy to talk to me or another member of staff. If we are not aware of an issue then we are unable to help resolve it.

In order to support pupils during lunchtimes the school has invested in more mid-day supervisors and their training. We are also involved in a project with the Callington Learning institute and West Cornwall Teaching School to develop a bespoke training scheme for to make the playtimes even more positive for the vast majority of pupils. We are interviewing for new mid-day supervisors this week. As soon as the new midday supervisors are in place, we will start a new daily lunchtime club to support pupils who find these

times stressful. This will focus on social skills and game playing for the small minority of pupils who find lunchtimes an unhappy or difficult time.

The school has also supported a member of staff to qualify to train other staff in Emotional First Aid. This is a school wide approach to encourage all staff to work alongside a child or young person experiencing emotional distress, before any professional help is sought. We hope this will build capacity, capability and confidence in all pupils.

We also run several other lunchtime clubs to give a choice to pupils. The school council have been following up on the pupil survey and hope soon to be able to come up with some ideas about new and exciting resources for the playground. I must say that the Levey Listeners, a group of y6 pupils who help on the playground, do a fantastic job of making the younger pupils feel safe and secure each playtime. We are lucky that we have so many pupils who are ready to support others.

2. The security of the site is something that we take very seriously with fencing, high levels of supervision and CCTV; we will review our procedures to improve the security in the morning whilst retaining a balance where pupils and parents feel that they are able to visit the school and are welcome in the building. The doors to reception area and the library may be open but there is another door that is locked electronically at all times.

I am sure that all parents would be saddened to see more and higher fencing erected and extra procedures that may make them feel unwelcome.

3. We have a range of after school activities although teaching staff are very busy after school with meeting commitments and an increasingly heavy workload. All staff run a club for two terms in the year and many do more than one. We are also fortunate that teaching assistants volunteer to run clubs both before and after school! We are currently looking into how we can offer extra clubs; however, there may be a small charge along the same lines as the very popular Supa soccer club.

4. The amount of information available to you as parents has grown over the previous few years. Parents are now able to access their child's records in Nursery and reception daily online through the Tapestry programme. We have arranged coffee mornings to discuss and share the programme so that parents are confident in finding and using this site.

In years, 1 to 6 parents can get information online of their child's reading through the accelerated reading programme as well as half-termly results placed in reading diaries.

We offer two parents' evenings through the year, one in the first term and another half way through the year in February. At these, we are able to relay information on your child's attainment and their targets for the rest of the year. We also send a report at the end of the year with the opportunity to speak to your teacher if you should want.

Information on the classes' topics and work are posted on the school VLE to ensure that you are aware of the expectations for each year. We also publish the maths calculation policy on the website and VLE so that any new developments in the teaching of this subject are shared with parents. We will endeavour to publish guides for other areas of learning.

We will send an overview of the homework expectations home over the next few days that will give advice and guidance on the expectations across the whole school.

We will review the school newsletter and how information is sent to parents on a weekly basis. Texting parents is a very time efficient way of communicating with parents and many report that they prefer this way of receiving information.

Thank you to the families that took the time to complete this survey. We will offer another opportunity to submit your views next term.



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