



St Matthew's School Newsletter

25th September 2015

Our Parent and Carer Survey – Results

We had a great response from our Parents and Carers Survey at the end of last academic year. You can find the outcomes from this survey on our website at

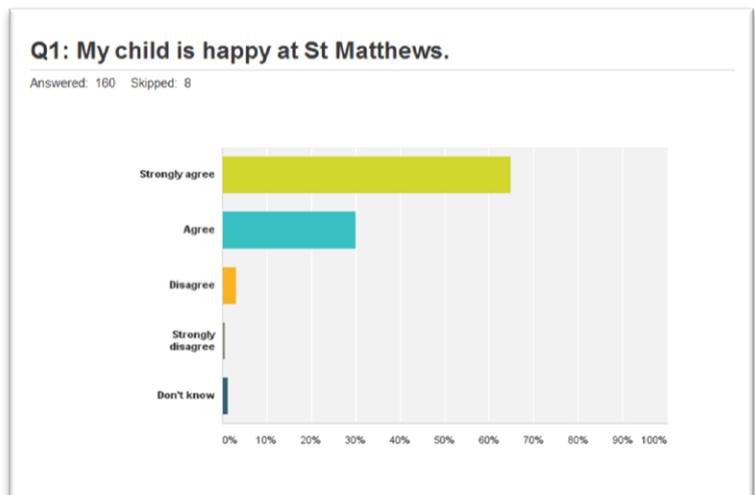
www.stmatthews.cambs.sch.uk/website/outcomes_from_questionnaires/.

Feedback was generally very good, with a large majority of respondents agreeing or

strongly agreeing to all of the positive statements in the questionnaire. The survey has also given us some clear ideas for areas to work on for our school development plan.

On our website you can also find a summary of outcomes from our children's questionnaire conducted in the last few weeks, and a report from last year's Health Related Behaviour Survey. This latter is taken by our Year Five and Six children each year. It is a survey that all schools have the option of using, and the report compares outcomes in St Matthew's with other Cambridgeshire schools. Outcomes in St Matthew's are again generally very positive.

We will be holding a "Meet the Head" event on 27th November to look at proposals for our next SDP with parents.



After School Clubs and Activities

Our latest extra-curricular clubs and activities can now be found on our website at

http://www.stmatthews.cambs.sch.uk/website/clubs_and_activities_at_st_matthews. More may follow so look out for emails from school.

You can also find the latest update from Mr Collard about sport in St Matthew's at

www.stmatthews.cambs.sch.uk/website/st_matthews_sport/



Meet the Head

We had a well-attended Meet the Head event this morning in the Sports Hall. We shared outcomes from the Parent and Carer Survey, while Mrs Hurst gave parents a tour of the eSchools Learning Platform that is about to be rolled out to children. More information will be sent out to parents and carers about this development next week.

Thank you to everyone who came. It was a very positive meeting and all your questions, ideas and suggestions will help us get the information we send out to parents and carers right. It will also inform some of the training we will do for our teachers.

Governor News

Last night we had our first Full Governing Body Meeting of the new academic year. In this meeting we did the following:

- We welcomed our new clerk to the governing body, Lis Silver.
- We carried out our annual review of our safeguarding policies, ratifying the updated Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy, Whistleblowing Policy, raised awareness of our Child Protection Whistleblowing Policy Guidance and reviewed the model Statement of Procedures about Allegations against staff. Governors also received the Annual Child Protection Report.
- Governors considered a draft Annual Governance statement. This document summarises the work of the governing body in the past

academic year and the key priorities for the governors in the year ahead. This will now be finalised and published shortly.

- We ratified the Pay Policy for the school for the 2015-2016 academic year.
- We considered the parent, pupil and staff questionnaires to help inform our next School Development Plan.
- We considered some draft target areas and actions for our School Development Plan, informed by these questionnaires alongside other evaluation information. The aim is to finalise the SDP at our next Full Governing Body Meeting in December. There will be a “Meet the Head” event on 27th November to share latest thinking with parents and carers and listen to any suggestions.
- We reviewed our Link Governor roles. Link Governors have a responsibility for working with staff leading various aspects of work of the school. They monitor action plans and look at outcomes for children in relation to their areas of responsibility so that they can bring this knowledge to governing body meetings.

We have two Curriculum Committee meetings planned for this term, in October and November. We also have a Resources Committee meeting November. These meeting will, among other things, consider implications of the School Development Plan for their areas of responsibility ahead of the Full Governing Body meeting in December.

You can find out more about the work of the governing body by visiting the “Governors” area of the school website – www.stmatthews.cambs.sch.uk/website/governors. Here you will find minutes of all of our Governing Body meetings (once agreed at the next meeting), plus minutes from our two standing governor committees (the Resources Committee and the Curriculum Committee).

Governors welcome suggestions and comments from parents and can be contacted via the school office.