

Euxton CE Primary School

Parental Questionnaire Feedback 2019

Suggestions and Comments

Thank you for your suggestions and comments. I have tried to respond to suggestions on a similar theme. Please remember I am available for a chat if you feel your comment has not been addressed or you would like a more personal response. Please be assured that every single suggestion will be looked at by staff and considered. We really do appreciate your feedback.

Health and Safety

Additional lighting at the bottom of the school path, near the woods.

This is something we have been working on over the past year and I would love to see increased lighting down the driveway. We initially waited to see if improved lighting outside St. Mary's would help, which unfortunately it didn't. We have also tried a simple solar light, but this is not effective and I'm not sure whether a more complex one will work better. I have approached the council about this in the hope of extending to an additional one or two street lamps and, although I keep hitting stumbling blocks, we do have a number of avenues to explore thanks to advice from one of our parents. As the nights are getting lighter we do have some time on our side, but I truly hope to have something in place by the time the dark nights start coming round again. I will keep you informed.

Homework

Too much homework. More homework. Ideas to support.

Homework - this is hard to get right for everyone. 98% of you agreed that your child receives appropriate homework for their age, with 74% who strongly agreed, which is great. However, there were a few comments relating to this, although there were less than last year. Teachers do set regular weekly homework on set days, as you know. Tasks vary and may involve worksheets or may be a fact-finding mission, ensuring that there is something for everyone. We have considered holiday homework and have changed track during the Christmas and Summer holidays, which I know has been well received. In terms of parental support, we do have a homework helper section on our website to support parents. This can be found through 'For Parents', 'Curriculum' and 'Homework Helper'. This includes reading, grammar, writing and maths support. Each class page has suggested websites too. There will be occasions when life takes over and homework can't be completed; we do understand this, just let us know. All the teachers have seen the questionnaires relating to their own class, so any individual comments have been noted too.

After School Club

More children accommodated.

Firstly, as a parent with two children who go to Breakfast and After School club daily, I fully understand and appreciate this. We have increased our numbers now to 50 places each day apart from Friday and don't feel able to extend this any further at this stage, due to staff numbers and available spaces in school. We hope you appreciate that we try our best to accommodate everyone at some level and would never turn away in an emergency. Since September, the staff have been trying hard to improve the environment and offer better experiences for the children who attend club, and I have been delighted to see the children loving their dance sessions, film club, Bonfire night celebration, Christmas party, etc. The main room looks great too! Staff meet each half-term to plan ahead and we will continue to provide the best provision we can.

Rewards System

Better understanding of reward system/green cards.

Feedback has shown you value the rewards in school and like being part of our Celebration Worship - we love having you with us too! A number of you have requested better clarification into our Green Card system so we will meet as a staff to discuss this and to ensure greater consistency too. We will share this with you and have this ready to implement from the start of the next academic year.

Sport

Greater understanding of how children are chosen for sporting competitions. Ensuring equality.

Although there were only a very small number of these comments, I felt it important to be addressed. Firstly, from a vast number of positive comments on the questionnaires, it is clear that the opportunities we provide our children in sport is a real strength of our school. As well as whole class PE lessons, we offer swimming and bring coaches in to share their expertise in delivering PE lessons. So far this year, this has included tennis and football, in addition to the Chorley School Sports Partnership (CSSP) doing dance, basketball, etc. Mrs Millar leads smaller group sessions which give the children more opportunity to develop and practise, and increases participation in intra-school competitions. All of our children compete in a competition over the year within school. This is led by the CSSP and data gathered from all the Chorley primary schools. Externally, we have entered a wide range of sporting competitions this year, far more than most schools, which allows the children to compete out of school. I appreciate it may look like similar children are always in these, however most of this has happened as we have reached local and then county finals. This requires us to have the same team competing. One thing we wanted to do this year is to include more children and most of this is scheduled in the second half of the year. By the end of this year **all** our Y5/6 children will have had the opportunity to participate in an athletics tournament/festival, **all** of our junior children have been invited to be entered into the cross country fun run and in May there is a Y5/6 tag rugby tournament which will be open to **all** those children who would like to be in the team. I am so grateful to Mrs Millar and Mrs Wiles who give up so much of their time to go to these with the children and for the amount of their own time in helping the children improve. However, like I said last year, if your child has a particular desire to be in a certain team or become more involved please have a word with either Mrs Millar or myself and we will try our best to include them in some way. This did happen last year and we entered an additional team in a league, which although meant another evening for Mrs Millar to be out at a tournament for 6 weeks, did increase involvement further.

Pupil progress updates.

More information on progress. Ideas for parents to support at home.

We were delighted that the overwhelming majority of you felt you were kept informed about progress. 99% of you agreed that you receive valuable information from the school about your child's progress, with 75% strongly agreeing, and once again the number of comments about this has reduced. It was great to introduce the 'Meet the Team' sessions for each class as soon as we started in September last year, which we will certainly be doing again. Feedback was that it was nice for parents and staff alike, and also gave general information which therefore wouldn't need to be said when meeting parents individually later in the month. I know many of you can't make things in the school day, but by doing this first-thing in the morning hopefully helps. In terms of Parents Evening's, schools are obliged to provide one opportunity per year for parents and teachers to meet. We offer three opportunities, one each term: September; March and following the written report in July if requested. One of the reasons the first one is so early in the year is for parents and teachers to meet as soon as possible to ensure that the children are settled into their new class and are happy, and to hit the ground running as soon as possible. However, throughout the year you are more than welcome to make an appointment or see a member of staff at any time, just give us a ring, drop us an email or have a chat with us. We are proud of our 'open-door' policy and have really welcomed the feedback that you find staff so friendly and approachable. Having discussed parental feedback with staff we are considering how we can enhance this further with the hope of introducing an additional element next year too. Often, during the year there are additional evening meetings that are led by staff or visitors, including the Reception Reading Meeting, Y2 and Y6 SATS information evenings and Online Safety Workshops. We have also offered parent's Maths and English support meetings for Y1/2 parents and Y5/6 parents. These specific sessions do have to be in the school day unfortunately as they are ran by an outside agency; however, I am sure we could get some support leaflets to you if you were unable to attend.

Thank you once again.

**Nick Ward
Headteacher**