

## *Hanslope Primary School*

### **ANNUAL PARENT/CARER SURVEY RESULTS** **JUNE 2010**

Dear Parents/Carers,

Many thanks for those of you who completed and returned this year's annual survey. 59 surveys were completed. Your responses and comments have been collated and the results can be found below.

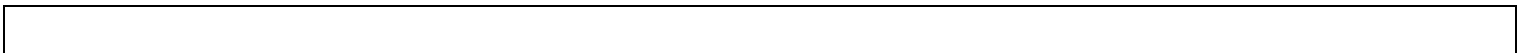
|  | <b>Strongly agree</b> | <b>Agree</b> | <b>disagree</b> | <b>Strongly disagree</b> | <b>Don't know</b> |
|--|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. My child enjoys coming to school  | 60%                   | 37%          | 3%              | 0                        | 0                 |
| 2. My child is safe and well cared for   | 59%                   | 41%          | 0               | 0                        | 0                 |
| 3. Behaviour/behaviour management is good  | 31%                   | 67%          | 0               | 0                        | 2%                |
| 4. The school is well led and managed  | 46%                   | 54%          | 0               | 0                        | 0                 |
| 5. The school takes account of and caters for children's individual needs                      | 23%                   | 66%          | 7%              | 2%                       | 2%                |
| 6. The school has responded to my views and has taken account of my suggestions where possible | 18%                   | 59%          | 4%              | 2%                       | 10%               |
| 7. I am kept informed about the progress my child is making                                    | 30%                   | 59%          | 7%              | 2%                       | 2%                |
| 8. I feel comfortable to approach staff with questions/ problems.                              | 53%                   | 45%          | 2%              | 2%                       | 0                 |
| 9. The school communicates with parents/carers effectively                                     | 46%                   | 41%          | 11%             | 2%                       | 0                 |

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**We asked “*What do you consider to be the school’s strengths?*” and you said:**

- ✓ Behaviour management
- ✓ Good standard of work encouraged
- ✓ Excellent shows and trips
- ✓ Warm, friendly atmosphere
- ✓ Happy, content children
- ✓ Extra-curricular provision
- ✓ Drama opportunities
- ✓ Friendly, caring, helpful and approachable staff
- ✓ Peer mentoring -boosts children’s confidence
- ✓ Communication and organisation
- ✓ Gives children confidence
- ✓ Village school
- ✓ Positive attitude to learning encouraged
- ✓ Pastoral care is excellent
- ✓ Something for everybody
- ✓ Communication with parents and making learning engaging
- ✓ Parental involvement e.g. Open afternoons, Maths and Literacy workshops
- ✓ Music and dance opportunities
- ✓ Good outdoor resources
- ✓ Small school so children know staff
- ✓ Quick response to any concerns
- ✓ Recognising and developing individual strengths
- ✓ Encouraging all to do their best
- ✓ After school/holiday clubs for working parents
- ✓ Cooperative atmosphere/nice environment
- ✓ You listen to what parents say and act upon it
- ✓ Community spirit and producing well rounded individuals
- ✓ Teachers listen and respond to the children
- ✓ KS1 creative afternoon
- ✓ Quality of PE and sports opportunities
- ✓ Variety of school equipment
- ✓ Children are supportive of each other

**Thank you very much for these comments**



**We asked “*In what ways do you think the school could be further developed to benefit all stakeholders?*” In this section, responses have been listed and I have included a school response where appropriate.**

- **Improve information shared at Consultation Evening**
- **Vacancies not advertised nationally nor via Newsletter or Parentmail**

The school is only required to advertise Leadership posts nationally. Vacancies for teaching staff and/or Support staff are advertised via MKWeb and through school's vacancy lists which are updated by the Local Authority regularly and sent to all schools.

- **Inform parents of behaviour problems sooner**

We aim to manage behaviour problems as best we can and elect to contact parents when it escalates. We will endeavour to inform parents sooner next year if we deem it necessary.

- **Weekly newsletter including piece by Governors (once monthly)**

Whilst I am aware that some schools produce weekly newsletters, I believe that the frequency with which we produce them currently is sufficient. Weekly newsletters would mean that a huge amount of information is repeated and I fear parents would not appreciate duplication of information, other than key dates. However, I welcome the idea of a monthly Governor Newsletter. I shall discuss this with the Full Governing Body at our first meeting in September. In the interim, please refer to the website where you can find a list and brief personal introduction from each of our Governors.

- **More formal process for keeping parents informed of progress**

In the last 2 years we have introduced interim summary report cards as parents felt they needed more information. These are distributed at given points in the year (end of Autumn and Spring Terms). In addition, we hold termly Consultation evenings where progress is discussed. I will consider this matter further with my Senior Team members.

- **Male teachers as matter of urgency**

We agree that the school would benefit from male teachers to act as role models, particularly for the boys. However, when recruiting, the school's priority is finding the best candidate to support our aim of raising standards and, to date, it has been the case that the best candidates have been female or no males have applied for positions in the first instance.

- **More playground facilities for Linford children with seats and quiet area**

Linford children would certainly benefit from more facilities. Developing the outdoor learning environment is something we will be looking at next year

- **More 1:1 lessons**

The school has limited resources and can only implement 1:1 lessons when additional funding is awarded to us. Many pupils do, in fact, benefit from daily small group work and where needs are identified and resources allow, pupils may work with staff on a 1:1 basis.

- **Hold more events in the afternoons as I work mornings**

This was raised last year, hence the school alternating morning and afternoon sessions for events such as Open Day

- **Clear provision for Gifted and Talented pupils**

Staff have been working on provision this year. The process will become more formalised next year and parents of such pupils will be informed directly. Staff will continue to enhance provision and this will be coordinated by Miss Britnell, the school's Gifted and Talented Coordinator.

- **Assess pupils earlier and give more support to children**

As a school we believe we offer good support for pupils identified with special needs. We are always striving to improve our procedures for earlier assessment and intervention. This year many children have been part of intervention groups where specific learning needs are identified and provision set up.

- **Provide opportunities for pupils and parents to learn a musical instrument outside of lesson time**

The school budget currently subsidises, quite significantly, peripatetic tuition for pupils. Unfortunately, we cannot extend this to parents. In respect of tuition outside school hours, the peripatetic staff only work during the school day. Private tuition can be sought, should this be a preferred option; I believe current costs are between £12 and £15 per half hour session. I do, however, like the idea of parents and children learning together.

- **Smaller classes**

Whilst we would all prefer to have smaller classes, there are both financial implications as well as issues surrounding space. The Governing Body Premises Committee met recently and we have drawn up a 3 year action plan which comprises plans about class sizes and accommodation.

- **Develop Golden Time – it appears no longer to be a treat**

Our KS1 manager will be working with the KS1 staff to see how we can develop provision and make it more interesting for the children. We will, of course, seek the views of the children too.

- **Try and work with local schools more**

We currently have frequent Headteacher and Deputy meetings with schools within the Radcliffe Cluster. Subject leaders for some subjects also meet. I agree, however, that the schools could work more closely so that the children interact with each other more. This is certainly something to consider for our Community cohesion action plan for 2010-11

- **Relevance of homework**

As I am not aware of the specific pieces of homework, I would ask that you seek a response from the class teacher.

- **Lack of multicultural experiences**

This is an area we are continually aiming to develop. We agree, however, that much more could be done and this will be addressed in the new academic year by way of speakers or visits where possible.

- **Job share classes and impact of teachers knowledge of pupils ability/progress**

We know that our job-share classes work well and that each teacher has a very good knowledge of the pupils; a huge amount of time is spent out of school hours discussing class issues and individual pupils. We shall use this model for our new job-share in Year 5.

## We asked for “Any other comments.....” and you said:

**Parentmail has helped communication – thank you**

**Short notice for events** - *key events held throughout the year (Consultation evenings, discos, Open Afternoons, concerts etc) are usually given what we consider to be adequate notice. We hope the Parentmail system has helped with such matters, but once again, it would be useful to know which specific events have not been publicised soon enough so that we can rectify the situation for next year. We are hoping to produce a calendar of key events for the whole year and publish it on the website. It must be noted, however, that planning so far in advance, some dates may still have to be changed – but always with good reason.*

**Stop penalising working parents** – *in order to respond to this, I require contextual information. I am more than happy to discuss this with the parent who raised this. Having been a working parent myself for a very long time and one who is in teaching, it has always been difficult for me and other colleagues to participate in events which take place during the school day.*

**Homework policy is erratic, no clear communication about why it is not set** - *may I please ask you to refer to the newsletter dated 28<sup>th</sup> May when an explanation was given. If further information is required, please speak to the classteacher.*

**Permanent bus driver for outings, should not be left to parents** – *we would hope that parents will continue to be willing to support us with transportation for some sporting events, but we recognise that it would be useful if the school could organise transportation for all events. There is no requirement or expectation that staff take the mini-bus test, but this can be given further consideration next year.*

**Some uncertainty with 326 club** – *whilst the school does have Governor representation on the 326 committee, questions surrounding provision will be best answered by Matt French, 326 Manager. Thank you for your enquiry and concern.*

**More emphasis on sport** – *we feel we have come on in leaps and bounds in sport and sporting opportunities. We are more than happy to listen to any particular requests.*

**I have noticed many positive changes e.g team points** – *we have too. Thank you*

**Reconsider timings of meetings** – *this was raised by 3 parents. We endeavour to balance evening and afternoon meetings so that parents have a choice. In addition, we have to consider other professional and personal commitments that staff may have. We will certainly aim to redress the balance next year.*

**More notice on next years classes/teachers** – *we believe that 3 weeks before the end of the school year is adequate notice at present. This may be extended next year as we are considering holding more transition days before the end of the academic year.*

**My child's development in FS has been tremendous and much improved in last 2 years** - *thank you. We believe provision has improved too.*

**Homework books for Elm class** – *this is something we can implement quite easily.*

**I am very disappointed that when my child performs in a school play we are not allowed to take photos"**- *Parents/carers have always been able to take photos of their children but we limit this to after the performance as otherwise, it can be very distracting for the children whilst on stage. Please bear in mind that we also need to consider parents who may not wish to have their children's photo taken. To that end, we have re-worded the photograph permission slip and will re-distribute it to all parents in the new academic year.*

**Previous Year 6 to visit to aid transition to secondary school** – *sounds like an excellent idea. We would need to check to see if the students could be released from their schools*

**Thank you to all staff for your support this year** –*it is our pleasure and you are most welcome*

**Clarification needed as to why certain playground games are not allowed** - *in the case of any misunderstandings, please approach a member of staff or myself.*

**Thank you for implementing the House system** - *this was something the school had planned to do and we were pleased that it was suggested by a parent last year. We love it and the children do too.*

**School works well with Music service** – *I agree. Our pupils are very lucky and we are lucky to have Mrs Czornyj organising it all.*

**My brother is amazed at what my children have done at school as at his children's school there is less PE, sport and generally less of everything** - *we continually aim to improve our provision across a range of areas and we are glad that it is appreciated.*

**Keep up the good work** – *thank you*

**I am pleased with all aspects of the school although I think a more competitive spots day on Linford side would be nice** – *we hope you were pleasantly surprised on Wednesday.*

Whilst this has been an extremely lengthy document, I hope the contents have been useful. I would like to take this opportunity once again to thank you for your continued support over the year and hope that we can continue to work together to improve provision and outcomes for your children.

Debbie Doherty  
6<sup>th</sup> July 2010