



Menston Primary School

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Headteacher: Iain Jones

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Dear Parents/Carers

I wrote last week to report on what governors found out when they interviewed children in the summer term and how this had helped us to plan for improvements this year. Today I am writing to report on what governors found out from the annual parents/carers' questionnaire carried out in the summer term and how this has helped us to plan.

As with the pupil interviews we were very pleased with the overall results. Nearly all respondents either agreed or strongly agreed with the following statements:

- My child is happy at school (98%)
- My child feels safe at school (98%)
- My child is well looked after at this school (97%)
- My child is taught well at this school (98%)
- I would recommend this school to another parent (96%)
- This school makes sure its pupils are well behaved (95%)

This tells us that parents and carers are broadly satisfied with the school and its work. However, one of the reasons we carry out the questionnaire is that it can help us to identify areas to further improve. The following three areas have been identified:

Homework

Generally homework was an area of satisfaction, however thirteen parents of children in years 1 and 2 disagreed with the statement 'My child receives appropriate homework for their age.' Comments revealed dissatisfaction with a perceived escalation of homework around the SATs testing period. We will certainly review this as we would expect homework for our younger children to be steady, regular and manageable.

Learning Behaviour/Emotional well-being.

In years 5 and 6, eight parents disagreed with the statement 'The school deals effectively with bullying.' This is a small number, but is not something we take lightly. Although we believe that we have good systems in place and that the school is a safe and happy place for nearly all our children, we also believe that we have not always communicated this clearly enough to parents and we have not shared or celebrated the quality of pastoral work carried out so diligently by school staff. We will definitely be doing more of this as the year unfolds. We are always ambitious in this area and this year we will be working with the Anti-Bullying Alliance to gain the quality mark for our work in preventing and dealing with any behaviours which might be perceived as bullying. We will also be working on a new Relationships Policy which will show just how we intend to teach all our children to work and play even more confidently and happily together and we will be continuing to roll out the Jenby's work to support children who may be vulnerable to anxiety or low mood or who may need help to manage their emotions.

Reports/ Progress Information

A small number of parents disagreed with the statement 'I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress.' This is disappointing given that in the last three years we have worked hard to improve this part of our work and in the last two questionnaires we have had evidence of increased levels of satisfaction. Closer inspection

Here at Menston Primary School we are dedicated to safeguarding the well-being of all children and adults in the school and expect everyone in our community to share this commitment.



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reveals that the parents of children in lower Key Stage Two (years 3 and 4) were the least satisfied in this area. This may be because in all other school phases parents receive additional statutory assessment reports such as phonics results, year 2 SAT results or year 6 SAT results. We would be very interested to hear from these parents of current year 4 and 5 children in order to understand what additional information they would like us to provide.

The school is always looking for ways to further improve and you can be sure that your feedback is both welcome and helpful. Thank you to all those parents and carers who took time to complete the questionnaire this summer. We are looking forward to working with you again throughout this school year.

Yours sincerely,

Iain Jones
Headteacher