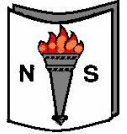




Hertfordshire County Council

Newberries Primary School

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Parent Questionnaires

A big thank you to all the parents who returned the questionnaire sent out at the end of the Autumn Term. The feedback has been very positive, with parents giving the school much praise and constructive feedback to help us to further develop practice.

We were delighted that an extremely high percentage of parents agree that their child is happy, feels safe and well looked after in school. In addition 94% of the responses we received agreed that their children are taught well and 91% agree that their children make good progress at Newberries.

An area that had stood out to us which we are keen to develop, relates to the number of parents who did not feel that they receive valuable information about their child's progress. We are keen to address this as the more parents understand the more this will enable them to support their child further. The school currently adheres to the statutory requirement in terms of reporting to parents such as the number of Parent Consultation evenings provided and the publishing of a written end of year summative report which details progress over the academic year. We also actively operate an 'open door' policy and make regular reminders to parents that if in between these formal invitations to school they would like to discuss their child further with the class teacher then they are welcome to drop in informally or make an appointment through the school office.

In response to the recent parent questionnaire, we are keen to make changes to the information we provide during Parent Consultation sessions. In the first instance we have made the following changes to our practice:-

- **Refocused the information that will be provided at the March, 2015 Parent Consultation Evenings**
- **Support parents further in developing their understanding of their child's progress and next steps by making greater use of examples of pupil's work.**
- **Plan to move the Autumn Term consultation evening to later in the term to give more opportunity to report on progress.**

We would be grateful for feedback following these changes to see if this has helped to address some of the queries raised.

As you are aware, a new Primary Curriculum has recently been introduced. This is now being taught in all year groups apart from Years 2 and 6. The new curriculum is very different to the previous curriculum with the notable difference being the raised expectations within each year group. Teachers are working hard to ensure that this higher pitch and challenge is being met, at the same time ensuring that there are no gaps in prior learning as a result of the raised expectations.

Alongside this significant change, all Primary Schools are introducing a new assessment system. This year remains a transition year for schools, as there will be a movement away from reported levels towards reporting pupil attainment in terms of Age Related Expectations. Once these new systems are developed we will be working with parents to support them further to understand how well their children are doing and at what stage they are attaining. This information will continue to be linked with a child's next steps in learning and how parents can support their children at home. However, the new focus for parents' evenings will be using children's books to support parents understanding of their child's progress.

We hope you find these changes helpful and the latest information about Curriculum and Assessment changes useful. We look forward to gaining feedback from you in light of these changes.

Although we feel the responses were positive we would have appreciated responses from a larger proportion of the parent body. If any parent did not complete a questionnaire at the end of the Autumn Term and would like to do so please complete and return this to the school office by the end of the Spring Term. In future we will be asking all parents to complete this questionnaire electronically.

The Governing Body