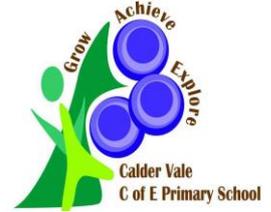

Calder Vale St. John's C of E (Aided)
Primary School

Mrs Helen Hesketh, Headteacher

Calder Vale, Garstang, Preston, Lancashire, PR3 1SR

Telephone / Fax: 01995 603016 e-mail: head@caldervale.lancs.sch.uk



23rd February 2016

Dear parents,

Please find below the results of our latest parental questionnaire. There was a 41% response rate which is a slight increase on last year. The results were overwhelmingly positive.

100% of parents agreed or strongly agreed with the following statements:

- The school has a happy atmosphere
- The school provides a safe environment for my child
- I am made to feel welcome when I come into school
- I find it easy to approach teachers with questions or problems to do with my child
- The school expects my child to work hard and achieve his or her best
- Newsletters are interesting and informative
- School reports keep me well informed
- My child likes school
- My child is happy at playtimes
- Behaviour in the school is good
- School buildings are kept in good order
- The school is clear about its values and promotes these to all members of the school community.
- The school is well thought of in the community
- There are opportunities to be involved in the life of the school
- Pupils are encouraged to learn and understand about the lives of other people in their community and beyond.

91% of parents agreed that:

- The school is well led and well managed
- Parents are encouraged to play an active part in the life of the school
- My child gets the right amount of homework
- My child does not have a problem with bullying



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- 1 parent disagreed that the school provided an interesting range of activities, clubs and sports outside lessons.

In the last twelve months the school has provided the following clubs or activities:

Drama, Eco, tag rugby, tennis, football, dance, board games,

The school has also signed up to participate in 16 different sports competitions this year. This will include pupils mostly in Y5 and 6 but also with some events particularly for Y3 and 4.

- 2 parents disagreed that more opportunities for attending school worship or assembly would be welcome.

Invitations to attend worship are always voluntary and we recognise that for some parents work schedules do not allow attendance during the school day.

What are we doing well?

Making children feel welcome

Creating a happy and exciting atmosphere

Keeping parents informed of activities

A vibrant curriculum

Committed staff

Lots of enthusiasm and encouragement

Expanding the school

Our children have been welcomed into the school, they are happy, cared for and supported in their education

Our child loves school and is excited and proud of it.

School transport is a great help

Helping my child with reading and writing and boosting confidence in all subjects

Our child is learning well

It is useful to have the topic and learning objectives sent home.

Collaboration days provide different learning opportunities outside the classroom.

Homework is relevant, comments are read and acted upon.

Improving times tables learning

Focus and encouragement in reading

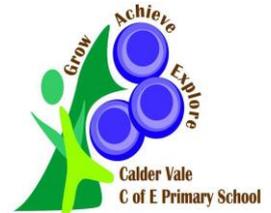


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What could we do better?

Relax - *we do try to provide opportunities for children and staff to relax and to take time to enjoy the many positive achievements! Your positive comments have helped, thank you.*

Ensure behaviour is consistent - *As the school grows we are working hard to ensure that expectations remain high and all our children are engaged. Developing excellent behaviour for learning is one of our school improvement priorities this year, including our current work on growth mindsets.*

Less worship - *As a Church of England Primary School our worship time is an important part of the school day. We spend approximately 20 minutes each day meeting as a whole school and sharing God's word and aim to do this in a variety of ways including art and craft activities, singing, short films, stories. Worship enables us to bring together all our school community in a reflective time of day which can be very important in the busy schedule of the day. This is also an important time for embedding our school values which are essential in helping our children to grow into independent, resilient, happy adults. If you would like to look at our worship planning or the whole school policy please contact me in school.*

Do reception children have long enough in the water when swimming? *We are very fortunate in being able to provide swimming lessons for every child every week. Staff accompanying children do ensure that children are participating, although when reception start swimming it is important to build their water confidence by swimming individually.*

I don't know if my child is making good progress - *Our new assessment methods and individual records of achievements (blue files) provide detailed and transparent information for children, parents and staff. We assess children against age related expectations (ARE). These folders were shared with parents at the last parents' evening appointments and will be shared again prior to the Spring term parents' evening. A detailed report is written in the Summer term. If you would like more information please contact your child's teacher in the first instance.*

Grounds and paintwork need tidying - *This is part of our 3 year Lancashire Property Service Agreement and is timetabled to be implemented in the Spring/Summer terms. The garden is currently under the management of the gardening club and eco clubs who have done great work in creating leaf mulch for the winter beds and clearing the yard of fallen leaves. Pathways were cleared before the Christmas break and have just been cleared again.*

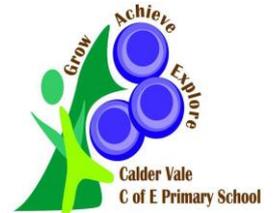


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Improve the school website - *We agree the school website needs an update . This will form part of the 2016-2017 school improvement plan and we hope to be able to budget for this in the new financial year.*

Sports Day - *could we have more year group competitive races? - Our annual Sports' Day is planned by our children and PE ambassadors. We do review what went well and what can be improved each year and these comments will be shared with them as well as Mrs O Brien our PE subject leader.*

