



Governor Newsletter

June 2017



Many thanks to all of you who completed the annual survey for parents and carers. The results have already been fed back to senior staff and governors and are already being used to help agree development priorities for the next academic year. Over the course of next year governors will be monitoring how matters that you raised have been addressed.

Sport and extra-curricular activities

Staff and governors at The Blake School are committed to ensuring that all children experience an innovative, broad and balanced curriculum, access learning indoors and out and have opportunities to excel whatever their strengths.

Overwhelmingly you agreed that your children enjoy break and playtimes and are encouraged to get involved in sport and to be active.

A number of you commented that you would like to see a wider range of children accessing sports events and this will therefore be something that is looked at as part of planning for next year.

94% of you said that your children benefit from a wide range of experiences and opportunities at The Blake School. Opportunities to further develop outdoor learning, such as Forest Schools, are being explored, with the intention that more children can benefit from these exciting opportunities.

Alongside curriculum review the variety and nature of school trips will be discussed to ensure that children continue to gain maximum benefit from the learning opportunities that these occasions provide.

Your children

It was heartening to read that the vast majority of you (99%) feel that your children are happy at The Blake School and also that your children are well looked after whilst at school.

It was also clear from the survey that overwhelmingly you feel that the Christian character of The Blake School impacts positively on your child's understanding of Christian and universal values. More than ever it is important that the inclusive values promoted by the school continue to be well communicated to the children so that they can mature into adults who chose to live by these values.

It was a pleasure to meet so many of you at the summer fair and to talk about the work of the governors.

The governors are delighted to support 'The Friends' who work tirelessly raising money to pay for so many of the 'extras' that the children benefit from.

If you wish to get in touch with the governors you can leave a message with the school office, or contact them via governors@blake.oxon.sch.uk

Behaviour

Whilst most parents/carers responded that The Blake School deals quickly and effectively with poor behaviour a significant number indicated that they did not know whether this is the case.

Alongside the updated and simplified Positive Behaviour Policy which can be found [here](#) on the school website, two new summary guides for parents have been produced. Both guides can be found [here](#) on the school website and can also be picked up as a paper copy from school.

One guide summarises the updated Positive Behaviour Policy and the other the new Playground Behaviour System (Red card system).

Do ask your children about the standards of behaviour that are expected from them and how poor behaviour is dealt with.

Almost all of you know what to do if you feel your child is being bullied, or know where to find the information if you needed it. The Anti-bullying policy can be found [here](#) on the school website. If you have any concerns about behaviour or bullying please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher.

Communication

Every one of you who has wished to do so has felt able to approach school staff with any questions or queries.

The Blake School operates an open-door policy and parents/carers are welcome to come in to school to chat to teachers, to volunteer in a classroom, to share expertise, or to raise concerns. If you do have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to continue to speak to any member of the school staff.

92% of you feel that parent's evenings, along with curriculum evenings provide you with good information about your child's progress and how to support your child. 93% of you made very positive comments about the new reporting system. Children are made aware of the next steps in their learning, so please do ask them to tell you what they are currently working on.

Actions taken in response to the survey last year have clearly had a positive impact with more of you than ever saying that you feel the school communicates well with you.

Different means of communication suit different people but there is still work to be done to ensure that you can always find the information you need quickly and easily.

96% of you would recommend The Blake School to other parents. Thank you for your warm and generous comments regarding why this is so. Everyone at The Blake School has a part to play in creating the warm, fun, caring, friendly and welcoming environment that so many of you commented upon. Senior leaders, teachers and Teaching Assistants work exceptionally hard and it was heart-warming to know that you appreciate this and recognise their dedication to each of your children.

Committed to the care and education of your child within a Christian setting