Governor Newsletter

March 2019

Thank you to everyone who completed the annual parent/carer survey.

101 of you took time to provide invaluable feedback to staff and governors on every aspect of the school.

97% said your child is happy at school

98% think your child is well looked after at school

99% of you would recommend the school to others

93% said your child's behaviour and emotional needs are well met (**No-one disagreed**)

92% said your child enjoys their learning (**No-one disagreed**)

91% said their child benefits from a wide range of experiences and opportunities

Every one of you that wanted to speak to staff said that you are able to do so

93% said that the school communicates well with you

88% said you had good information about your child and how to support their learning

83% said their child's learning needs are well met

85% said your child is encouraged to be active

A number of you flagged up playtimes as being an area where your child has concerns, or where you are unclear about how poor behaviour is dealt with.

We would like to remind you of the policies that are in place regarding playtime behaviour, you can find these on our school website.

A considerable number of organised sports activities take place during break and lunch time that are open to any children who would like to be involved. The sensory garden also offers a quieter space for children who prefer this.

Staff are continuing to explore levels of staffing at break and lunchtimes and are aware that some children find these unstructured times particularly challenging. If your child has specific concerns do encourage them to talk to their class teachers.

A significant number of respondents said that they are unclear about the school's vision.

After the Easter break the governors will be holding a Parent Forum during which Mr Edwards-Grundy, in conjunction with Phil Fowler (Chair of Governors) will be providing information about the new Ofsted framework and giving everyone an opportunity to comment on the school's existing vision, how to ensure that it reflects what is at the heart of the school and how it may be developed for the years to come.

Very many thanks to all those of you who wrote positive and appreciative comments within your feedback.

Staff and governors have been greatly encouraged by your recognition of the extraordinary commitment that the staff at the school have to the care, well-being and learning of all children.

"The school is fundamentally wonderful!"

It was very helpful to read your wide-ranging comments and suggestions regarding areas of focus for the school's future development.

A number of you mentioned the development of the outside area. Staff and governors are, with The Friends, embarking on an ambitious fundraising project that would lead to the creation of an 'adventure zone' in the wooded area along the edge of the playground. We look forward to engaging in the exciting plans that The Friends have in mind.

Other ideas for governors to consider included further breadth to the curriculum, school dinners, communication, Forest Schools, lunch time clubs, opportunities for relaxation and playground behaviour.

You can find out more about the work of the Governing Board and who the Governors are by looking at the School website and reading our termly summary of business.

If you wish to contact the governors, you can do so via the school office or via their email address governors@blake.oxon.sch.uk

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