

Friday 26th May 2023

June Newsletter

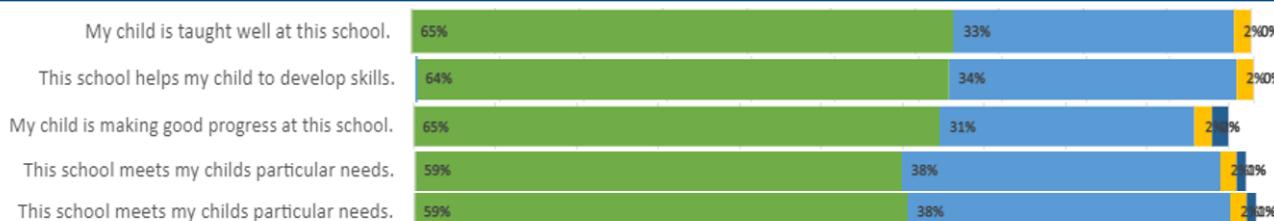


Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to all of the parents who were able to complete the **Annual Parent Survey**. As a school, we are determined to provide the best educational experience that we can, but we can only do this through the feedback that you provide. Therefore, with 100 families completing this, we feel this provides a great opportunity for improvement. Please find a summary of these findings below, which we believe are very positive, together with some explanation as to the steps that the Senior Management Team wish to take to make the school even better.



SMT Response: When rounding, both of these questions would receive a 100% positive and ultimately, the school should be aiming for nothing less in these areas. Beyond all else, a school should look after your child as if it were our own and therefore, we are extremely pleased with a 100% rating in this area. Safeguarding (inclusive of health and safety) will always be the school's first priority. In reviewing the comments, there was one issue raised upon using some of the field as additional parking/a drop off lane. We began this discussion last year with the local authority. At this point, they have refused permission for additional parking, but we are still discussing other options.



SMT Response: We are pleased that 98% of families have a positive view towards the way in which we educate. My staff work continually to make the curriculum the best that it can be and ensure our staff are experts in teaching this. We are disappointed that this is not felt by all and would genuinely ask these parents to discuss this with me further to try to address this. However, I would acknowledge that it has become more difficult to meet every child's needs as three years of disruption has vastly increased demand and the complexity of this at a time when staffing levels are falling. In reviewing the survey comments relating to curriculum, there were three main points discussed: promoting critical thinking in RE – this lesson has become almost entirely discussion-based this year; providing forest school to all year groups – each class will have a day of forest school next year, and the use of manipulatives in mathematics – each class has a range of manipulatives in class that have always been part of standard practice; however, this is an area targeted for improvement.



SMT Response: We are pleased that such a small minority, view our behaviour as less than good. From our perspective, our pupil's behavior is generally outstanding; however, I can understand that this is one of the more difficult areas to illustrate unless you have had the opportunity to see this for yourself and can compare to other schools. Therefore, we have had 369 recorded behaviours so far this year. Around 100 of these are from Reception – this is higher than normal, but Reception always record the most as developing school expectation is a key part of this year. The remaining 250 are spread across the remaining 9 classes over the last 150 days, 49 being based in the classroom with the vast majority occurring at playtime. In all honesty, this is around 25% more than normal across the school, something that we believe is a COVID legacy, where our pupils have had years of distanced play. We have taken steps to address this, resulting in a 50% drop in the last half term. In terms of bullying, we have had no formal reports of this, this year and identified no cases in our annual pupil survey despite 57 follow-up interviews with the pupils.



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SMT Response: We are pleased that those questions relating to parent communication were rated 97-98% positively as we always try to ensure we are available to you. I am aware with the last point in particular, I cannot always give parents the response they may want but I believe we try hard to do so in a timely manner: teachers are available after school most days, senior leaders are on the gates every morning and certainly myself and the office try to reply to emails the same day. We would also like to remind parents that you can schedule an after-school meeting with a teacher at any point – you do not need to wait until parent teacher evenings. Another comment discussed was around multiple communication methods. In order to not overwhelm families' inboxes, we try to limit emails to detailed communication; use texts for reminders or on the day messages; newsletters for key developments and dates, and face-to-face at the end of the day wherever possible. From the survey comments, I can see this can cause some confusion, but where we have just used emails in the past, this has led to so many that parents were missing important information. We are also aware that speaking with parents on the playground can cause unnecessary attention when other parents are around; we do try to be discrete and will invite parents in if this is a sensitive issue. However, to phone all concerns to parents as suggested would not be practical as often parents do not always answer straight after school as they can be driving and information would inevitably not be passed on. This said, we will ask to be mindful of this.

JUNE			
5th	Monday		Children return to school
5th-16th			Year 4 Statutory MTC
5th	Monday	10:00 - 14:00	KWIK Cricket Finals - NRCC - Y6 Selected children
6th	Tuesday	9:00	KES Teachers to visit Y6's
6th	Tuesday	9:30 - 12:00	Additional PE - Acorns Class
7th	Wednesday	9:00 - 15:00	Cedar Class visit to Holkham Hall
8th	Thursday	9:00 - 15:00	Pine and Fir Class visit to Holkham Hall
9th	Friday	10:00 - 12:00	Y3/4 Mini Tennis Festival - Lynnsport - Selected children
13th	Tuesday	9:30 - 12:00	Additional PE - Rowan Class
14th	Wednesday		KS2 Project Morning
14th	Wednesday	19:00	Year 6 Public Speaking Competition at KES
20th	Tuesday	9:30 - 12:00	Additional PE - Cedar Class
20th	Tuesday		Y6 Forest School Day
21st	Wednesday	10:00 - 12:00	Dance festival at Corn Exchange - Music and Movement children
22nd	Thursday		Whole school RE Day
22nd	Thursday	19:00 - 20:00	New Reception Intake 2023 - Parent Meeting
23rd	Friday		Y2 - Y6 Self Defence Day
27th	Tuesday	9:30 - 12:00	Additional PE - Maple Class
27th	Tuesday	15:30 - 16:15	Passport to Juniors Meeting - Year 2 parents
28th	Wednesday	9:30 - 11:30	KS2 Sports Day
28th	Wednesday	13:15 - 14:30	Reception and KS1 Sports Day
29th	Thursday	15:30 - 16:15	Passport to Year 5/6 - Year 4 parents
29th	Thursday		R - Y5 Reports sent home
30th	Friday		Mini Tennis Festival - Lynnsport - Y5/6 Selected children
JULY			
3rd - 4th	Monday - Tuesday		KES Transition Days for Year 6
3rd - 4th	Mon - Tues		Meet the Teacher Day - Internal Transitions
5th	Wednesday	9:30 - 12:00	Additional PE - Year 5's
5th - 7th	Wed - Fri		Year 6 Hilltop Residential
6th	Thursday		Quadkid's Athletics at Lynnsport - Y5/6 Selected children
10th	Monday		Back up Sports Day
12th	Wednesday		Whole school - Build a den day
12th	Wednesday		Year 6 Reports sent home
14th	Friday	14:15 - 14:45	Children's University Graduation
14th	Friday	15:30 - 17:00	PTA Summer Fair
19th	Wednesday	9:45 - 11:00	Year 6 Leaver's Performance in Junior Hall
19th	Wednesday	13:30	Year 6 Leaver's Graduation Event
20th	Thursday		Last swimming lesson for Year 3 children
20th	Thursday	18:00 - 20:45	PTA Summer Disco