**Parent Questionnaire results November 2018**

***There were 61 returns to the questionnaire out of a possible 136= 44%.***

***Some parents had no experience of some matters, so their responses were left out.***

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|  | **Question** | **Strongly Agree** | **Agree** | **Disagree** | **Strongly disagree** |
| 1. | My child is happy at this school | 46= 75% | 15= 25% |  |  |
| 2. | My child feels safe at this school | 47= 77% | 9= 15% |  |  |
| 3. | My child makes good progress at this school | 40= 66% | 19= 31% | 2= 3% |  |
| 4. | My child is well looked after at this school | 52= 85% | 10= 16% |  |  |
| 5. | My child is taught well at this school | 45= 74% | 15= 25% | 1= 2% |  |
| 6. | My child receives appropriate homework for their age | 31= 51% | 25= 41% | 1=2% |  |
| 7. | This school ensures the pupils are well behaved | 37= 61% | 22= 36% |  |  |
| 8. | This school deals effectively with bullying | 30= 49% | 17= 28% | 1=2% |  |
| 9. | This school is well led and managed | 37= 61% | 24= 39% |  |  |
| 10. | This school responds well to any concern I raise | 38= 62% | 18= 30% | 1=2% |  |
| 11. | I receive valuable information from the school about my child’s progress | 40= 66% | 17= 28% | 3= 5% |  |
| 12. | I would recommend this school to another parent | 48= 79% | 13= 21% |  |  |

***Parents Comments and St Mary’s responses…..***

“St Mary’s is a lovely school and we have been made to feel part of a special family- thank you. Just one comment…Parents evening feels rather late this year, especially with new starters as it’s a long time to wait to hear they’ve settled in, having said that, her teachers have done a great job at welcoming the children into Reception. Thank you.”

Thank you for bringing this to our attention. We chose this time of the year to enable staff to really get to know the children. We will look at the calendar for next year. Please note that we have open classrooms earlier in the year so that all families have an opportunity to look round school and speak to class teachers about any concerns.

“Very happy with the school and how welcome we have been made to feel.”

That’s lovely to hear, thank you.

“St Mary’s has been a school which all my family have attended throughout the last 40 years! I really like the school and so do my children.”

Wow!

“Thought progress in Reception was fantastic. My daughter has loved the project work in Y1; she has been so excited about the egg and learning about dinosaurs.”

We are delighted to hear this!

“It seems that progress is not always tailored to individual children and that some may be falling behind slightly or not being pushed to achieve their full potential i.e. all children receive the same spellings regardless of ability.”

We work hard to ensure that all children reach their full potential. Children receive the same spelling words as these are the words which the Department for Education want us to teach to each year group.

“I’m sure my son is making good progress for his age and is given appropriate homework but I’m not sure, either his ability appropriate as he seems to find homework easy, is rarely challenged and it takes a while for this to be recognised by teachers. Although last week he was finally moved up reading level.”

We hope the progress reports will assure you that your son is making progress. Please do not hesitate to contact the class teacher if you have any concerns.

“Parents evening before half term would be preferable; it seems a long time to wait until November. This links with Number 11 above as I’ve not really had any info this year so far, but when I get it I’m sure it will be valuable.”

We chose this time of the year to enable staff to really get to know the children. We will look at the calendar for next year.

“My daughter seems to be settling in very well to her class and I think her teacher is helping my daughter very much and I am seeing an improved progress already in her learning and behaviour. Thank you!”

You are more than welcome.

“Number 11- more opportunity to see pupil work throughout the year and evidence of progress through their work would be a great addition to report. My daughter has definitely made progress while at St Mary’s however, I feel her progress, particularly in writing stalled last year. Her books given back at the end of the year really highlighted little difference between start and end of the year and little guidance/ follow up. She is however much happier this year. I think my daughter is taught well although she is unsure! She says she would like more PE- twice rather that once and more time doing art and drama. She still talks about the artist study she did two years ago. She also struggles with the whole class/ table group rewards system as in this class is it more individual. My daughter likes the maths homework book but would still like Abacus too- she definitely misses this.”

At the moment, 1 hour of PE per week is what the government recommends. To be able to enhance PE provision, we look to our partnership with Harrogate schools which allow our children the opportunity to take part in even more events than those offered in school. We hope the progress reports will assure that your daughter is making progress. We also have an Arts week planned for the near future. Please do not hesitate to contact the class teacher if you have any concerns.

“The comments we have chosen ‘agree’ for are due to our child and the children in her class rather than school/ teachers. She has low self-esteem as she feels less able than her peers and finds school work difficult. She is afraid of another child in her class so this impacts on her feeling happy and safe.”

Please do not hesitate to contact school so we can discuss the matter further.

“My daughter did not appear to enjoy school last year or her teacher. She flourished last year and her confidence improved. My daughter is struggling with her confidence this term and her ability . I am concerned about her progress and recognition. There seems to be no evidence of house points for homework. She is doing additional maths pages to improve her maths but feels frustrated that this is not marked when she is trying so hard.”

Each teacher uses our house points system, although they are adapted to meet the requirements of the class. Please contact school so we can further discuss your concerns.

“Question 6- As in its plenty. I prefer reading, spelling and maths alone.”

“Over the years, my children have often raised concern regarding supervision during lunchtime playtime. There have been various injuries which they feel could have been prevented if supervisors would have been paying closer attention to playground activities. My child frequently reports that there isn’t any liquid soap in the dispensers in the toilets and not every teacher ensures that hands are being washed prior to eating.”

After the Christmas holidays, staff met to discuss the best way to deal with this issue. Over the past two weeks, we have introduced ‘zones’ for staff to be able to thoroughly supervise the children while they play so no areas are missed. This is monitored daily.

“Question 8- Never had this problem to know the answer.”

“Re: Homework. There is no evidence that homework improves educational outcomes and I would urge consultation between parents and teachers to stop it for the benefit of the children. “

We have looked up guidance on the setting of homework with the Department for Education, who state,

*‘Homework need not and should not get in the way of other activities that children do after school. We advise parents to talk to their child’s class teacher to discuss any concerns they may have about the amount of homework their children receive.*

*Where schools do set homework, the law gives them the legal right to ensure that pupils complete any tasks 'reasonably assigned to them' in connection with their education. This means that teachers are empowered by law to set homework that is reasonable in terms of volume and difficulty and to impose disciplinary penalties on pupils who fail to do it.’*

School is happy to discuss the matter further.

“The last few teachers that my son has had have really inspired him. Since his start at St Mary’s he has felt valued by his teachers and they have focused on his positives. Ant concerns we have had have been acted upon and we have been listened to.”

We appreciate your positivity!

“Both my children have enjoyed their time at St Mary’s.”

And we have enjoyed having them in school!

“Pupil- ‘I love being at this school.’ My daughter was eager to complete this questionnaire because as her comment says, she just loves going to St Mary’s school.”

That’s lovely to hear! Thank you.

“St Mary’s has been a wonderful school for my son and he’s always been incredibly happy. The level of care and commitment of the staff is faultless in our experience.”

Thank you for letting us know.

“Will be better or more stronger with bullying.”

“Our daughter’s teachers have been wonderful. She has flourished over the past five years. There have been no issues with her.”

This is wonderful to hear, thank you.