



Hezlett Primary School

1 Ballywoolen Road, Castlerock BT51 4TZ Tel. (028) 7084 8395

Principal: Mrs D Winters

Dear Parent,

Please find below the results of our recent Parent Survey. 38 out of 141 families took part and 13 parents made additional comments which I have addressed below.

‘My child enjoys coming to school.’

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
48%	45%	7%	0%	0%

‘My child feels safe and secure in school.’

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
45%	48%	2.5%	7.5%	0%

‘The school setting caters for my child’s needs adequately.’

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
29%	58%	7%	6%	0%

‘The school provides opportunities to develop his/her personal qualities beyond the classroom.’

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
18%	48%	24%	5%	5%

‘The school encourages my child to reach his/her potential’.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
18%	48%	24%	5%	5%

‘My child is valued within the school and their effort and achievement is celebrated.’

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
27%	29%	34%	5%	5%

‘My child is encouraged to request and value the views and opinions of others.’

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
30%	48%	20%	0%	2%

‘There are positive relationships between staff and pupils.’

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
35%	58%	2%	5%	0%

‘My child is encouraged to have a healthy lifestyle.’

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
42%	58%	0%	0%	0%

‘My child is confident that should they have a problem, there is someone they can go to in school who will listen to them.’

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
18%	56%	11%	5%	10%

Additional Comments:

Communication

- **Lack of Parent Teacher communication** – Current circumstances make it difficult to speak to your child’s class teacher in the morning as many have morning duties in the playground or their classroom before school. There is no reason why you cannot speak to the teacher in the playground after school as they are dismissing their class. Should you want to talk to a teacher please ring the office to leave a phone back request and the teacher will ring you back.

Teachers are also contactable on email

Mrs Gillespie – jgillespie750@c2kni.net

Miss Loughery – eloughery852@c2kni.net

Miss Perry – rperry595@c2kni.net

Mrs McCormick – amccormick874@c2kni.net

Mrs Henry – ahenry651@c2kni.net

Mrs McKernan – cmakernan937@c2kni.net

Mr Murray – gmurray566@c2kni.net

Mrs Williams – lwilliams032@c2kni.net

Mrs McGreevy – lmcgreevy935@c2kni.net

Mrs Winters – dwinters565@c2kni.net

Teachers are very aware that they don’t see as much of parents as they did pre-pandemic. If you have a query or a question about your child’s education please get in touch in one of the ways listed above.

- **School Text Messages** – Apologies if school text messages are short and to the point. We have 160 characters to use in a message which uses one credit so when possible I try to save school money by keeping messages within that boundary as the text service run by C2K is costly. The maximum number of characters for a message is 300 so we can't go beyond that. These longer texts cost school two credits. It has been noted that many parents have not read letters posted on the website when guided to do so with a short text message, so sometimes repetition is necessary.

Traffic Situation / Parking

- **Speed of traffic outside school** – This is something we have no control over. The warning signs outside school are provided by the Dept of Infrastructure's Roads Division and whenever we are notified that they are not working correctly we contact the relevant department immediately. Their response time in acknowledging our email or call is quick, but they are passing on our information to Coleraine Traffic Section who are slow to respond. I have asked MLA Claire Sugden to get involved in prompting DOI to get our warning lights up and running.
- **Parking Situation** – This is something beyond our control. When we introduced staggered closing times during the last 18 months that was not popular with parents who had multiple children at the school. The Board of Governors undertook the Annual Inspection of School Premises on Monday afternoon and the traffic congestion is something which was discussed at the follow-up Board of Governor's Meeting. A solution to the problem is unlikely due to the position of the school and lack of layby space but I will raise the issue with EA.

P1 Drop Off

- Staff fully understand the anxieties faced by P1 parents leaving their children at school in the first term. The decision was taken after the first 2 weeks to ask parents to leave their child at the school steps, as pupils mostly were coming into school confidently. Experienced Foundation Stage staff know that the best course of action for those pupils who are more reticent to leave a parent is to make that parting swift, so that pupils can quickly get caught up in the excitement of class routine and meeting their friends to play. A staff member will be available at the bottom of the steps to encourage P1 pupils with their morning routine. Obviously, if your child is very distressed, then bring them in to the school building.

Differentiation

- Every child in school is monitored regularly by their class teacher and appropriately levelled work is set. In literacy and numeracy, pupils will be working in groups and those groups may vary depending on subject and will evolve as the year progresses. Initially pupils will be recapping on work covered in the previous term before progressing to new concepts. The class teacher is best placed to judge what classwork and homework is suitable for each group. There may be instances when extension activities are sent home for homework for abler students, but homework is not designed to teach new concepts.
- In January P4 and P6 pupils sit CAT4 tests which are 'non-reading' intelligence tests. Last year we completed those tests with all P4-7 pupils in May as they had missed out on testing in the 2019-20 school year. This information helps the teacher to interpret the results of Literacy and Numeracy standardised tests which are taken by P3 to P7 pupils each May. These tests, along with regular standardised reading tests and teacher judgement give staff an accurate profile of your child's ability.

Individual Pupils

- I cannot comment on any individual pupils. School strives to support all children in school and deals with behaviour incidents as they occur.

Sport

- We are glad to have some sporting after school clubs up and running again. These will change from term to term.
- Last year we did re-introduce a competitive Sports Day as it is important for pupils who are sporty but not academically strong, to have a chance to excel.
- Local Principals are currently in discussion to plan 'Interschools' sporting fixtures.

Transfer Club

- After school Transfer Club for P7 pupils has been up and running since the start of term.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Donna Winters

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