



Featherstone Academy Newsletter-

Week Ending-21/04/2023

A Message From The Headteacher

As we reflect on the year so far, it seems quite incredible how we are already in the Summer Term. This has been a really successful year so far for the school and we want to push that even further during this term and reflect on what went well and what needs more development in preparation for the next academic year. As shared below in the parent survey section, I really value any feedback or other conversation and will always try and make myself available to parents. There is lots planned already for this term, some which are normal practice for Summer Term: Books and Biscuits returns, Look into Learning returns, School Improvement Forum Returns, Sports Days, school discos, parents evenings, lots of school trips, even a coronation (plans shared very soon!)

Key Dates

26th April- Year 5 trip to The Black Country Museum

Tuesday 9th - Friday 12th May - Key Stage 2 SATs.

Monday 15th - Friday 19th May - Year 6 Residential.

Thursday 8th June - Little Learners and Nursery Books & Biscuits

Thursday 15th June - Reception Books & Biscuits

Thursday 22nd June - Year 1 Books & Biscuits

Thursday 29th June - Year 2 Books & Biscuits

Thursday 6th July - Year 3 Books & Biscuits

Friday 7th July - Year 4 Books & Biscuits

Monday 10th July - Little Learners to Year 5 Parents Evening 3:30pm-5:30pm

Tuesday 11th July - Little Learners to Year 5 Parents Evening 3:30pm-5:30pm

Wednesday 12th July - Year 5 Books & Biscuits

Thursday 13th July - Year 6 Books & Biscuits

Thursday 13th July - EYFS Sports Day (morning)

Friday 14th July - Year 1 - Year 6 Sports Day (morning)

Thursday 20th July - Meet Your New Teacher Day

Friday 21st July - Year 6 Leavers Assembly (9.30am)

Friday 21st July - Year 6 Disco (details to follow)

Parent Feedback

Thank you to all the parents who completed the most recent parent survey made available to you. We had 80 responses which gives a fair representation across the board of families. Below I would like to outline the outcomes of those and any intended actions related to the information:

1. 95% believe their child is happy at this school.

We are pleased that such a high proportion feel this way but we want all our children to feel this. We will do everything possible to ensure every single child is happy coming to school and will work tirelessly to ensure that is the case.

2. 90% believe their child feels safe at this school

While 90% is a high percentage - it is not high enough when it comes to perception of safety. From the comments it would appear the majority of instances refer to isolated higher level behaviour incidents which can sometimes occur in school. I implore anyone who feels their child is unsafe within our care to come forward and have a discussion around this.

3. 85% believe we make sure our pupils are well behaved

Those who did not agree mentioned specific behavioural instances which were of a high level. These do occur in schools and we manage them robustly and in line with agreed policies. I appreciate that at times not all information can be shared with parents about these incidents but rest assured we do everything possible to ensure a fair outcome and make improvements in the long term. There are areas, like in everything, that we can do better and will strive to do so.

4. Of the very few who reported their child has been bullied, 60% felt it had been handled well

Compared to the national picture, this is a very positive statistic but it is essential all parents know that bullying is not tolerated. It is not possible to say that bullying does not happen at any school and in the rare instance that it happens, it is dealt with firmly in the short term and support is provided long term. From the comments section this shows we need to do some more work with children and parents around perception of bullying and the differences between behavioural concerns and one off incidents and bullying.

5. 90% believe the school shares appropriate information about what your child will learn and updates through the year well

We have done a lot of work on this over time including increasing the volume and improving the structure of parents evenings, including learning information on the newsletter, continuing with the meet the teacher mornings. I think there are still some improvements to be made in the times between those dates, which was the main issue raised within the comments which will continue to try and improve.

6. Of the families who have raised concerns with the school - 75% are pleased with the outcome and how it was handled

As with any concern raised, there are multiple perspectives and perception, we try our best to be visible, approachable and take on board all information from all available sources. If there is something you feel was not handled appropriately, please let us know and we will give you as much time as is needed to resolve a problem or look at why you may feel it was not resolved in the way that you would have liked. It may be that we cannot give the outcome you are looking for but we can improve the explanation to perhaps put your mind at ease further. I am pleased that firstly there are not many families who feel they have had to raise concerns but also that the vast majority who have are pleased with resolutions and our efforts in supporting them.

7. 80% of families with children with SEND felt their needs are being met at school

Any family member that feels their child's needs are not being met, should always in the first instance discuss concerns with their child's class teacher. If after this you feel worries have not been addressed, please do make an appointment with our SENCO. Mrs Steatham works tirelessly to ensure all pupils' needs are met and will put time aside to meet you and discuss further. This statistic does not match the communication we have with those families on a regular basis therefore please do get in touch at any time.

8. 86% believe the school has high expectations of the children

Our educational ethos is based on high expectations and we want every family to feel this. While this is 10 out of the 80 recipients who feel this way it is 10 too many. I would like to understand further from any family who feels that we do not, why that it is and how you feel we can improve.

9. 90% believe their child achieves well

It is good to see how our children achieve is well recognised but we are never satisfied and always want children to be the best they can be in all areas, not only academic. Where this is felt this is not the case, please talk to us.

10. 99% believe there is a good range of subjects on offer

This is really good news and hopefully will only improve with our new approach this term to going deeper in the children's learning in non-core subjects.

11. 93% believe that that their child has access to a good range of clubs and activities

While nearly all feel this is a positive element of the school and we have improved this drastically over the last two years, we still feel we can refine this further to suit the children and tailor to have a wider range of non-sporting offers. Watch this space for further improvements in this next academic year.

12. 90% believe that their child's wider development is supported

We value the whole child and every part of a child's development and we are pleased that this has been recognised. Our staff go above and beyond in supporting children whether they are within their direct care or not. Again though we are always looking to make this better. Even if you feel that it is currently good, we want to know how it is better.

To summarise, the information above shows that the vast majority are very pleased with all areas of the school and where comments have been made please be assured these are taken seriously. Leaders are available before and afterschool or have and will happily arrange private discussions around wider school improvement or individual child issues. We also have formal opportunities like school improvement forums for parents. In almost all instances, those dissatisfied with one area showed dissatisfaction across the whole set of questions which shows there are a minority who feel their experience is not the same as others and feel unhappy. While the surveys are absolutely an opportunity for honesty and that honesty is valued and appreciated, we would really appreciate an opportunity to have further conversations with those few families who feel that way, so please do get in touch so we can try and change that.

Snack and School Dinner MCAS Payments

Please keep up to date with MCAS payments for weekly snack and School lunch payments. Outstanding payments are checked frequently and if we feel the debt is increasing without a payment being made we will inform you that no more Snack or School Dinner will be ordered until the outstanding payments are paid.

Snacks need to be paid weekly via MCAS to avoid consolidating a large number of payments.

If you are having any issues accessing MCAS on your phone please speak to the school office.

Sensory Garden Project



The Animals Came to Featherstone Academy

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 had a visit from Laura and her amazing animals on Wednesday. The children got the chance to stroke and hold a snake, a honey bear, a bearded dragon, an owl and a tortoise. The children asked some really great questions and also remembered some really interesting facts about the animals habitats and diets.

















Class Learning- Week Commencing- 27/04/2023

Take a look at what your children will be learning in class week commencing 24/04/2023

- Nursery- Dear Zoo- Painting animals, painting patterns and repeating patterns in Maths.
- Reception- Looking at Dinosaurs, dinosaur eggs and diet and habitat.
- Year 1- History- looking at Queen Elizabeth II, P.E.-Athletics, Maths- Multiplication and division, English- Story-Where The Wild Things Are.
- Year 2- English- Features of a non chronological report, P.E.- Athletics, Maths- Fractions of shapes.
- Year 3- Computing- data, Science-Animals and humans, English- Continuing with the book Mouse, Bird, Snake, Wolf, Maths- Capacity.
- Year 4- Maths- Decimals, English- Features of a newspaper.
- Year 5- History- Coal mining, visiting The Black Country Museum, Maths- Shapes and Angles and P.E.- Athletics.
- Year 6- SATS Revision, English-reading Goodnight Mr Tom.

Celebration Assembly

Well done to our Golden Book Winners for weeks commencing 27/03

The Hive- **Chloe Haywood**

Little Learners- **Paisley Shepherdson**

Nursery- **Poppy Moore**

Reception- **Noah Cook**

Year 1- **Jayden Chall**

Year 2- **Ellie Marston**

Year 3- **The Whole of Class 3**

Year 4- **The Whole of Class 4**

Year 5- **Brooke Batey**

Year 6 - **Isaiah Nelson**

Headteacher- Mr Gatrad- **Kianna Melhado and Ella Element-Stubbs**

Deputy Headteacher- Mrs Steatham- **Emily Cox**

Contact Us

Contact Us:

Featherstone Academy

The Avenue

Featherstone

Wolverhampton

West Midlands

WV10 7AS

01902 734167

information@featherstone.uwmat.co.uk