

Headteacher: Hayley Marshall

27th April 2018

Newsletter

Dear Parents/ Carers,

The Summer Term has got off to a very positive start, the children have returned having had a good break, despite the weather and we have already seen some fantastic work.

The Parent Questionnaire was very positive with a record number of people responding when compared to previous years. The outcome from the questionnaires and the recent safeguarding audit commissioned from Leeds recognised how highly effective the school is at safeguarding children. The Auditor said she had never seen a 100% agree or strongly agree return before so thank you to everyone who contributed to this fantastic outcome for Iveson! We were also very proud that some elements of our practice were described as exemplary.

As a school we are constantly looking at how we can improve and really appreciate the time you give to both completing the questionnaire and adding comments. We analyse all these responses to identify areas we need to improve on or further enhance.

Analysis this year indicated three areas that brought in more 'disagrees' than others. These were:

- The school keeps me well- informed about my child's progress
- The school lets me know how I can support my child's learning
- I understand the roles and responsibilities of the Governing Body

In relation to

- The school keeps me well- informed about my child's progress

We currently have the following systems in place

- Three consultations a year
- Opportunities to make arrangements to book an appointment to meet the teachers at any time by phoning the school office. Teachers remind parents of this facility in each half termly newsletter
- Staff on hand at the start and end of the day.

We will

- Invite in a working group of parents to support us in how we can be more effective in this area
- Look at effectiveness and cost of pupil tracking tools which enable parental access



In relation to

- The school lets me know how I can support my child's learning

We currently have the following support available

- A wealth of information on the website with links to areas to support learning
- Parent group sessions relating to supporting Maths and Literacy
- The class blog with information and ideas
- Study guides and exercise books for children in Year 6

We will

- Discuss with parents what we could provide to enable them to support their child's learning
- Look at creating a bank of ideas suitable for the different age groups that parents can access via the website

In relation to

- I understand the roles and responsibilities of the Governing Body

We currently have

- Parent Governors on our Governing Body – Abida Parveen and Christine Shields

We do however recognise this as an area to improve and are keen to do so particularly as our Governors are very pro-active in school.

We will

- Have a dedicated area for Governors on the website with pictures and an explanation of how they work with the school
- Provide a Guide to Governance at Iveson

We appreciate many of you took the time to make specific comments and whilst we cannot respond to each of them individually we have looked at the themes that are coming out.

A number of you commented on issues relating to the building and grounds. As you know we have been trying to drive improvements through for some time and are nearly at the point where all our plans will be signed off, these will address many of the issues you raised and on completion we will look at anything outstanding and ensure it is in the school premises plan. We have also set aside funding to upgrade the libraries and classes as part of this work. I will update you once we have had final confirmation on the 9th May. We will continue to work on the grounds following two successful funding bids – one which created the Secret Garden and our more recent one which is enabling us to develop our allotment area. In the long term we want to enable access to these all year round but this won't be possible until the building work is complete.

It was pleasing to read how well received our After School Education Programme has been. This was a pilot year and as such we needed to decide whether we would continue this. Due to the excellent uptake and its success the decision has now been made to continue; we will take note of the comments re the range and variety of clubs and obviously ask the children what they would like to see.

Homework cropped up in a number of comments – I will ensure staff are reminded to put this on their class pages so parents are aware what the children are required to do. We do have some children who decide to



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do this at breakfast, lunch or after school clubs this is acceptable with school as it shows children are taking responsibility for their own learning and managing their time.

We are keen to communicate with parents so please can I remind you to ensure your contact details are up to date and if families are sharing parental responsibilities that we have addresses and contact details for both parents. Where both parents require information/ consultation times etc please inform the office so we can ensure we get the information to you.

Celebrating the success of our children is at the heart of what we do so in addition to our Special Mentions, Attendance Awards, Academic Excellence Award (to be rolled out across KS2 from September 2018) and dojos; we are also introducing Premier League Primary Stars look out for more information on the website. We are also going to photocopy the good work that children are sent to show the SLT team and add a sticker so you can discuss with them at home what they did well.

We look forward to sending out details of the plans for the building soon as this will mark another exciting chapter in Iveson's journey.

Yours sincerely,



Hayley Marshall
Headteacher



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