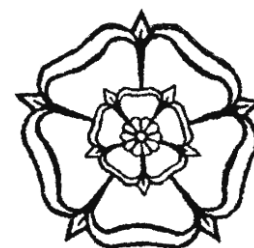




Thornton-in-Craven Community Primary School

Cam Lane, Thornton-in-Craven, North Yorkshire, BD23 3SX



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Acting Headteacher: Mrs K Smith

Parent Questionnaire - Results – 2014/15

We received responses for 55 pupils which is a 73% response rate. An excellent response. Thank you.

Thank you for the feedback you have provided. We are very pleased with how overwhelmingly positive most of it was and the feedback for areas to improve was constructive and useful. Please keep talking to us, the first parents drop-in is this week (Wednesday 8th October 2.30-3.30pm) if you have anything else to add or discuss.

Well Being						
	Strongly agree or agree	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
The school has a happy atmosphere.	98%	80%	18%	1%		1%
My child enjoys school.	96%	85%	11%		2%	2%
My child, in general, feels secure at school and enjoys their learning.	96%	84%	12%		2%	2%
My child is encouraged to do their best.	95%	84%	11%	2.5%	2.5%	
My child feels safe in school.	100%	88%	12%			
Children are encouraged to take responsibility for their learning.	95%	75%	20%	2.5%		2.5%
My child is making good progress.	96%	69%	27%	2%	2%	
Learning and Curriculum						
		Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
School has high expectations for my child.	93%	66%	27%	5%		2%
My child finds the work stimulating and interesting.	93%	67%	26%		2%	5%
Teachers are good at letting me know about my child's progress.	88%	60%	28%	10%	2%	
There are opportunities for extra-curricular clubs.	96%	65%	31%	2%		2%
My child feels confident in school.	93%	83%	10%	4%		3%
Parents are encouraged to play an active part in their child's education.	92%	71%	21%	4%		4%
The work that is sent home is appropriate and there is the right amount.	75%	40%	35%	23%	2%	
Behaviour						
		Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
I think the school's system of rewarding and praising children is effective.	91%	58%	33%	4.5%		4.5%
My child likes the behaviour system.	82%	54%	28%	9%		9%
As a parent I like the fact that I hear quickly if there is a behaviour concern.	68%*	47%	21%			32%

The school deals effectively with bullying	51%*	35%	16%		2%	47%
Communication						
		Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
School communicates effectively with parents.	96%	76%	20%	4%		
School reports and parents evenings keep me well informed.	90%	65%	25%	5%	2.5%	2.5%
The newsletters provide me with clear information regarding what has happened but also about future events.	100%	82%	18%			
My child is confident that should they have a problem, there is someone they can go to in school who will listen to them.	95%	57%	38%	2.5%		2.5%
The school is well led and managed.	96%	72%	24%			4%
School improvements have been beneficial.	95%	64%	31%			5%
I read communication sent via parentmail.	96%	80%	16%	4%		
I update school and parentmail when my details change such as my mobile number or address.	98%	70%	28%			2%

* we assume that a don't know in this instance is a good thing as parents may never have had behaviour concerns or bullying issues

What, in your opinion, are our key areas of success?

Main comments:

Communication improved.

Excellent communication.

Organisation improved – significant difference for the better.

Engagement of parents and families.

Child loves school – thriving and happy.

Small, very friendly, good atmosphere.

Few or no incidences of bullying.

Current Acting HT doing a great job.

Happy with the new management.

Family feel.

Warm, caring environment.

Excellent learning environment.

Improved praise and reward system.

Well disciplined children.

Excellent behaviour.

Good work ethos.

Teachers respected by the children.

Staff know the children really well.

Close bond the staff maintain with the children.

Staff very friendly and approachable.

Staff are dedicated – feel they care about the children and do their best for them.

School environment improved greatly, feels bright, clean and tidy.

Strong staff team.

School providing excellent trips and opportunities.

Encouragement, enthusiasm and communication.

What, in your opinion, are our key areas of development?

Main comments:

Too much homework, homework not spread out over the week, homework not inspiring – Homework always divides opinion. For those that find there is too much homework, others want more for their child. Our homework policy states that children in 4/5/6 should do 1 to 1.5 hours per week. Comments were made regarding spreading it out over the week. For ease of administration (you can appreciate there are different levels of homework to send out so it takes some organising!), the work is sent out on one day in class 3 but you are welcome to spread it out yourselves – for example ask your child to do some on Thursday, Sunday and Tuesday. We have worked on providing more inspiring homework such as trialling 'My Maths' homework and I will feedback the request for some topic based work. If homework does take too long please feed this back to the class teacher and stop when your child has had enough.

Number and length of parent consultations, detailed feedback regarding child's progress – the school follows a policy of 2 x parent consultations and 1 x written report which is the standard for primary schools across the country. Parents are invited to make an appointment at the end of the year to discuss the written report if they feel that it is beneficial but most find the report thorough. Staff are always happy to meet with a parent who has concerns or if they would like more detail about their child's progress. We will always strive to make an appointment sooner with you if we have any concerns regarding progress or behaviour. Remember our door is always open if you would like further information/detail, please don't feel in the dark or shut out. We would always encourage parents to outline concerns to the class teacher first and then talk to the Headteacher if you feel it is necessary.

Parents' consultations on different days – We will always aim to organise the appointments so appointments for siblings can be on the same day. If we forget, feel free to remind us and we will make appointments to suit you.

Three year groups in one class, lost the equivalent of a teacher after Mrs Hawkins left – in a small school such as ours, there will inevitably always be a class containing three year groups. We carefully consider it every year and sometimes there is a rec/1/2 mix, 2/3/4 or 4/5/6. The organisation depends on a number of factors such as ability or year group sizes. In the future we may split a year group across two classes. We regret that we cannot provide a more consistent approach but our varying numbers in each year group does mean that it changes each year. Even before Mrs Hawkins' departure, we were always going to return to a three year group class due to loss of funding. Please keep in mind that we have to consider what is best for the whole school of pupils and staff and not just your individual child. If you ever have any concerns regarding this, then please feel free to speak to me.

Challenge for children, particularly the more able in a mixed age class – we do feel that we are quite skilled at this but please talk to us if you feel there are areas to improve. The majority of children make expected or more than expected progress each year. However, children do not always follow a set path so if they seem to not make progress in the Autumn term, give them time!

After school clubs have a cost – due to a small staff team who have to lead a variety of different subjects, booster clubs and other aspects of school life, we do have to rely on outside agencies to provide clubs on some days. Some of these are subsidised. Film club is very reasonably priced, the only charge is for providing the drink and snack and it works out at less than 50p a session.

Deal quickly with disruptive pupils in lessons – I hope you would agree that behaviour has been superb so far this year and any disruption is dealt with quietly and effectively. If you or your child feels that lessons are continuously disrupted please speak to the teacher about it and they should be able to let you know how they are addressing the issue.

Transition from previous Headteacher to new Headteacher – the governors continue to work on appointing a permanent Headteacher. Transition for the staff and pupils has gone smoothly so far. As a new acting headteacher, I am supported closely by the LEA and I have an established mentor headteacher offering guidance when required.

Can you send a paper copy of the newsletter as well as send it by parentmail – sorry but no. One colour copy costs 9p each which adds up every week! Anyone who is not able to access parentmail is given a paper copy.

Improve the website and update it more often – Agreed! I have been trying to update the website but I don't get on with it very well. Watch this space... a new and improved website is coming soon!