

## Parent Survey – February 2022

What do we do that you really like and want us to carry on doing?
The class dojo is helpful as we can message the teacher easily with any concerns
Good home-school communication
Maths star and English star. Picking a book winner from 100% AR quizzes.
I was pleased to hear of Mrs Shipp's employment in reception to get the children outside more for some 'forest school' type learning. I also like that the children are able to borrow a library book each week in addition to their reading books.
Sports club after school.
The teaching at the school and the support the my children receive is fantastic ... don't change that!
Love the school and the staff!
I like that there's one full-time assistant in the classroom. I like it when staff patrols outside during drop-off and pick-up. I like the video parent-teacher conferences rather than in-person, though wish these meetings were held more often. I like the grade-specific newsletter to know more of what's going on in the classroom. I like that students wear their PE kits all day rather than have to change clothes during school.
Encouraging good behaviour Wearing PE kits on PE Days Separate Maths/English Classes Teacher/Student relationships are 5*

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What do we do that you think we should change?
Let all classes enter from 8.45 not just older classes.
Stop offering sandwiches at lunch. They are simple and children often choose them so they don't have to try the hot dinner. They coped before sandwiches were an option and had to try new food! It was a good experience for them.
I'm not sure that the children are being taught to their own abilities. ie are less able children given more help with the basics whilst the more able children are given further extension work? Some of the phonics/writing homework is confusing with different fonts sometimes including tails on the letters, sometimes not and different looking letters. This is confusing for a child who is learning to identify and write letters.
1- lunches. It's unfair for children to rush their lunch and to be told when to stop eating their mains and go onto their dessert. Some children don't like puddings , but because their told to stop eating their mains. They'll go hungry. Half hour to let the food cool down, eat it and the dessert is disgusting! Let alone being told when to stop eating regardless of whether they've finished or not.  2- No discos or parties for children. The point of an academy is for more funding for the children. Where's the money going. No hot meals were provided over Christmas because staff had covid, yet the 'academy' refused to pay for agency staff. Yet again the kids went without.
I think that breakfast should be offered at breakfast club, it would help parents
The parking is horrendous. Could you create access from the staff lot into the empty paved basketball court to allow for additional temporary parking for drop-off and pick-up? Or, could you stagger drop-off and pick-up times over a range of time, say a half-hour, so that not everyone shows up at the same time, thereby creating more parking spaces during any given time? Or, could you have a drive-through option where parents and younger children don't have to exit the vehicle; students could have different-coloured ribbons on their book bags to designate which class each student belongs to for ease of kids getting to the right class on their own with staff's assistance from a certain drop-off point on the school grounds.  Keeping up with two different apps and ParentMail and website and printed slips/letters seems inefficient and sometimes confusing. Suggest we use either Tapestry or ClassDojo but not both. Or at least explain why we use both. I understand that ParentMail is for conveying school-wide information to all parents and is therefore a separate communication tool. Could you push important, time-sensitive information that is on the website to one of the apps or ParentMail?  I think the morning fruit/milk snack, at least in Reception, should be a set short snack break rather than have the kids help themselves at anytime throughout the morning. My daughter doesn't feel like there is time for her to stop what she's doing to have a snack and then goes hungry. I don't like that my daughter has two teachers who work part-time and share the school week (two days and three days). I feel that learning continuity is lost and that it's confusing for the kids. I don't feel that we get enough school/staff/student-specific information relating to Covid. I'm not asking to violate anyone's medical privacy, just for more information when Covid is going around. Can you enforce mask-wearing amongst the parents more strongly? Can you require students to wear masks? My daughter would wear one if the kids around her did.
Reading - Children should have a choice of two reading bookings (AR) which is directed by the school and also a home book which they can also quiz on regardless of the level but they enjoy reading it! My children have had a few AR books which they have not enjoyed reading and therefore won't read them. Homework - Less topic work and more consistent work such as weekly spellings, or maths.

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What don't we do, that you would like us to start doing?
More extra curricular clubs. Not just sports but I would love my children to participate in after school clubs
More after school club options
More community involving events- fairs, raffle, competitions.
I don't have much insight in to the actual day to day learning/routine in my son's reception class. It would be good to have some rough understanding as to what the children generally do each day. Literacy/numeracy/free play etc)
Other than after school sports club. Once a week might I add. The academy do nothing for the children. Their not allowed to use the new play area! Waste of money. The academy is using Covid as an excuse. Other schools in the area are giving the children a better schooling experience. With covid hanging over our heads.
Locking the gates to the side of the school to stop ignorant dog walkers leaving their dog poo for children to step in and buggies to be pushed through.
The PTA could definitely be more active, compared to other schools the opportunities are missed for fund raising for the school.
"More concerts for older children. Love the nativity and it would be nice to get the older kids doing something too! More fundraisers? Get the kids campaigning for something they are passionate about. Telling us more about what they do in assembly and RE etc.
I don't think the kids have enough supervision on the school field after lunch, as evidenced by my 4-year-old daughter getting soaking wet, muddy, hurt, etc. during that time. At lunch, can students not be limited to sit in a certain place just because they got school dinner or brought a packed lunch? My daughter would like to sit with her friends but says she is not allowed to when she brings a packed lunch. Can you update the school dinner meals calendar/schedule on the Great Heath website? Currently, it shows the calendar for Winter 2020. Or better yet, push the updated meals calendar to one of the apps. Why is the Parent Forum meeting limited to one parent per class when we could do a video conference so that everyone who wants to can hear what's being discussed there? I'm not sure how I would know what was discussed after taking this survey if I don't participate in the Forum. Are meeting minutes published afterwards? Why did PE in Reception decrease from 2 days to 1 day per week? I'd prefer the 2 days, as my child needs to expend energy. When you disseminate information, whether new or a change, could you explain the Why behind it? Can you post a typical school day schedule for each grade so that we know what is happening when? I feel like I'm in the dark about my daughter's entire school day, as there is no time to talk substantively with the teacher at drop-off and pick-up. I don't even know what time she eats lunch.
Positive rewards for going above and beyond! Homework - Are children rewarded for taking the time to do their homework? For going above and beyond? Do they get recognition? Communication - We only speak to the teachers at parents evening for 5 minutes! It would be nice to know what the children are learning, what they are struggling with, what have they done well in? Children receive Maths Star/English Star, but as parents we have no idea what for. Class Dojo - Upload work from the classroom, get the children to share their work so we can see it? School trips/Sports Trips