



# The Apple

***The weekly news from Isaac Newton School, Grantham***

Issue: 045

Circulation: 350

Date: Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2015

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week we have produced an extra newsletter in order to share the survey results with all members of the school community. The survey was issued prior to the Easter Holiday and it is important that everybody gets to see the results. Below you will find the percentage of Parent/Carer responses to each of the statements given. We will also let you know of our intentions as a result of the feedback in the comments section. There will be some slight anomalies in the percentages adding to 100% but we decided to round to the nearest whole number:

## **My child is happy at school**

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
48%	48%	5%	-	-

This is extremely encouraging and reflects the high quality relationships between staff and pupils.

## **My child is safe at school**

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
53%	44%	-	2%	-

Again, this is pleasing. As a schools we recognise the safety of pupils has to be a priority in all that we do.

## **My child makes good progress at school**

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
67%	28%	5%	-	-

Since November 2014 this has been the main area for development within the school. It is fantastic to get feedback that shows that we are well on our way.

## **My child is taught well at school**

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
56%	40%	2%	2%	

Again, since November 2014 we have been working hard to ensure that this is the case.

## **My child receives appropriate homework for their age**

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
47%	47%	5%	-	-

Having changed to a new way of presenting homework we are delighted to see that the vast majority of Parents/Carers have responded positively. We have been amazed by the quality of homework that has been produced!

## **My child is encouraged to work hard and do their best**

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
60%	35%	5%	-	-

This is all that we can ask of the pupils and one of our highest "Strongly Agree" ratings.

## **The school ensures that pupils are well behaved**

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
40%	47%	12%	2%	-

We often receive comments (both from visitors to school and from the public when we are on school trips) about the positive behaviour of our pupils. We will be reviewing our behaviour policy and republishing it on the school website to ensure that this remains a priority area on which we are focused.

## The school is well led and managed

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
43%	45%	10%	2%	-

This made pleasing reading. The school has been through a very difficult period and we are delighted with the progress that is being made. There have been many changes and difficult decisions but the support of Parents/Carers has ensured that we have been able to ensure that the pupils are at the centre of all that we do.

## The school deals effectively with bullying

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
26%	35%	28%	12%	-

This is the response that caused the most concern for us as a school. As already stated, we will review and republish the school behaviour policy. We will also consult with pupils to gain their perspective so that we can ensure that issues with bullying are addressed fully and that pupils understand the ways in which they can gain help.

## The school responds well to my concerns

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
47%	30%	16%	7%	-

This is always an area to which we pay great attention. As a school we will always listen to concerns of Parents/Carers. We will also ensure that we explain why we are taking the action we feel is correct (or refusing to take the action that a Parent/Carer may desire). We will continue to work at this in order to ensure that you know that we take all concerns seriously.

## I receive valuable information about my child's progress

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
42%	42%	9%	7%	-

We seek to give information about progress formally 3 times a year (2 Parents' evenings and a report). However, this is clearly not working for some Parents/Carers. We would appreciate any ideas in this area so that we can ensure that all Parents/Carers are able to respond positively.

## I would recommend Isaac Newton Primary School to another family

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
44%	44%	9%	2%	-

This is the true test of any school and we are delighted that 88% of you responded positively.

Within the survey there was a section where you were able to share any other positives or negatives about your experience of Isaac Newton School. Here are the main issues (not already highlighted) and the ways in which we will seek to change:

### More after school activities

This suggestion was mentioned a number of times on separate surveys. We have always provided a number of after school clubs for pupils. During last half term we ran the following clubs:

Heartstart, Hockey, Football, Challenge Club (2 a week), Rhubarb Theatre Club, Netball, Inspire + and Art. All of these clubs are run by members of staff who volunteer. We also competed in a number of after school competitions.

### More notice/transparency for events

We attempt to keep you informed of dates and times through the newsletter, Twitter , Facebook and the School Website. We will endeavour to plan ahead so that dates and time can be shared at the earliest possible opportunity.

### Have class assemblies

We began doing this in Year 1 last half term and will seek ways in which to involve Parents/Carers more and more during school time.

### Internet improvements including a "Who's Who" on the school website and recommended apps

These suggestions were both really helpful and we will act upon them this term.

### Staff being more visible before and after school

We will discuss ways of achieving this during staff meetings this term and let you know the ways in which we will respond soon.

Whilst this list is not exhaustive it represents the main themes mentioned in the "Things that I would like to see in the future".

### Finally

There were just over 40 responses from the 346 surveys sent out. Thank you to everyone who responded.