

GOVERNORS' NEWSLETTER

SUMMER TERM
2014

The Branch



Many thanks to all of you who recently completed parent questionnaires. The questionnaires are a great source of information for Governors to judge how parents feel about the school and the education received by their children. The outcomes of the questionnaires along with any comments from parents about how the school could be improved were discussed at the Full Governors' Meeting held in May alongside senior management and staff governors.

Below is a summary of the results:

100% agree or strongly agree that the Children:

- Enjoy school most days
- Are kept safe
- Are well looked after
- Are treated fairly and with respect
- Are taught well are expected to work well and do their best
- Are making progress
- Well prepared for the next step at Secondary School

Slightly less, by 1% (89%) agree or strongly agree that school :

- Takes account of suggestions and concerns
- Has appropriate procedures for dealing with complaints

More than 90% agree or strongly agree that school :

- Informs about children's progress
- Meets individual needs
- Deals effectively with unacceptable behaviour
- Is well led and managed
- Provides a good range of activities for all to take part in
- Provides equality of opportunity

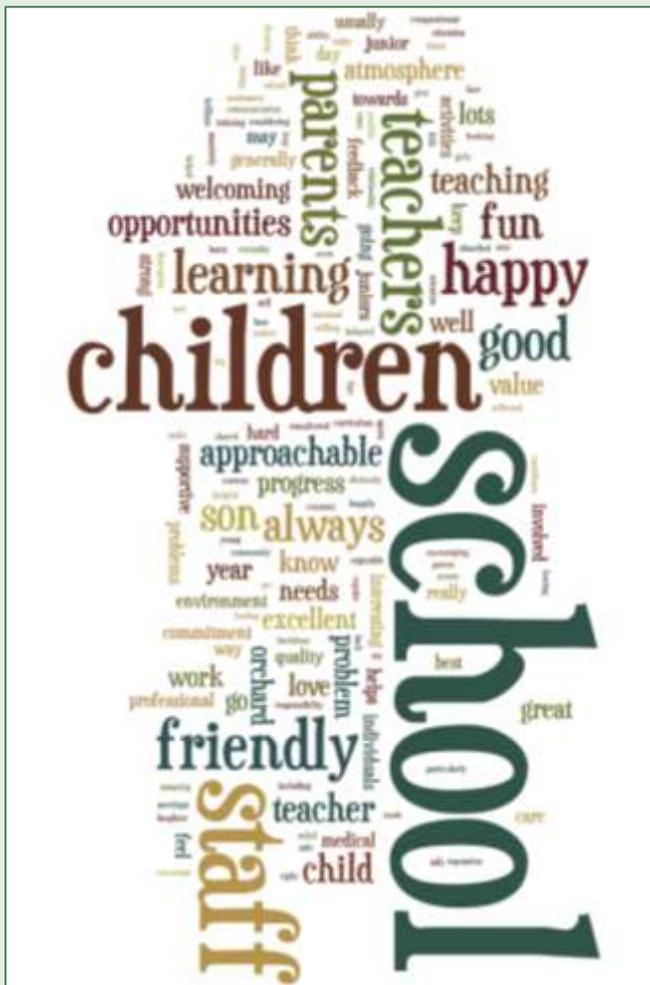
Parents may be interested to know that the possibility of a Breakfast club was of interest to 30% with slightly more interest for after school provision at 41%.

98% would recommend Orchard Junior School to another parent.

What a result! What an achievement!!

What an acknowledgement!!!

In the questionnaire, parents were asked about what they valued most about Orchard. We have “Wordled” the responses are here is the outcome:



One of the issues which fell below 90% was that 11% of Parents disagreed that the school has “appropriate procedures for dealing with complaints”. It is part of the Governors’ responsibilities to ensure that the school has a robust Complaints procedure. Whilst we hope that you have no reason to complain about the education your child is receiving at Orchard we understand that sometimes issues can arise. Orchard Junior School’s complaints procedure/policy can be found on the school website and a hard copy can be requested from the school office. Most issues are, of course, dealt with immediately by the class teacher in the first instance or by the School’s Leadership Team.

Many of the Governors at OJS are ex-parents or parents of children still at the school and we understand that you want the best for your child. Should you wish to speak to the Chair of Governors at anytime, having first discussed with the class teacher and Leadership Team, please contact the school office and they will pass on your details. If you wish to write to the Chair of Governors correspondence can be addressed to Mrs N Brigg, Chair of Governors, C/O Orchard Junior School. Please remember to include your own contact details so that we are able to respond to you.

Governor week

As Governors we are welcomed into school at any time to carry out our duties and to evaluate and monitor procedures which we are responsible for.

One week a year we have a special week called Governor Week where all governors are encouraged to come into school for a period of time to watch lessons, assemblies and to be part of the school day.

This year that week took place in June. Governors attended some Year 5 maths lessons, a literacy session in year 3, a guided reading session, music, PE and ICT lessons. The annual Health & Safety audit was also undertaken during the week. Other governors were able to enjoy a Year 4 assembly and attend Year 6 briefings for Castleton.

Many governors enjoyed talking to the pupils about what they were learning and how they felt about their day at school. It is a great way to get an insight into the Orchard School day.

The Governors would like to thank the pupils and staff for making their week so enjoyable.