



Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for all the responses to our questionnaire. We had a 55% (214 out of 392) return - which is 14% higher than last year. As a school we found the electronic version much easier, I hope you did too.

The responses to the questionnaire were very positive and showed how much you all value the school. If you would like to discuss any of these results please make an appointment to see me.

I have looked at the additional comments with issues and tried to group them with any actions the school will be taking.

We have had a very small number of families who disagreed with many of the questions, please come into school and discuss these with me as it is important that we try to ensure that all the children have a positive and happy time in school.

Kind regards

These are some of the comments made at the end of the questionnaire.

- Fabulous school and delighted our children attend. They enjoy school and are fortunate to have access to quality teaching and a varied curriculum. Thank you to all the staff at the school.
- We are delighted that a sibling will follow his brother into the school in September. We feel confident that we can partner with the school to support the children's learning and overall development. Thank you all for creating and nurturing such partnership.
- My son has had a fabulous learning experience at Brunton. I can't recommend the school more. We are so sorry that he leaves this year but wish the school every continued success.
- Generally, the opportunities available for our children at Brunton is fantastic and we are grateful to the staff for working so hard to achieve this! We are happy and proud that our children attend Brunton First School.
- We have LOVED Brunton First School! It will be difficult to leave as our youngest child moves on in the summer. It really is a magical place and one we're very lucky to have been a part of for the last eight years. Our children have had the very best of starts to their education, one which has provided a strong foundation for the future. Thank you for everything, we will miss you all.
- Great school with wonderful teaching methods. My daughter loves coming to school (as did my older daughter who has now left for middle school). The teachers and head are very approachable about any matter and have had wonderful support over the years. I cannot speak highly enough of the school. Well done
- Thank You Mrs McKay and the staff at Brunton First School. You all work so hard to ensure all children have an enriched curriculum which ensures they are happy and successful! We couldn't ask for more!

From the comments which raised a concern (the concerns were from 1 or 2 responses), please see below the actions we as a staff are taking in response to those concerns.

Comment	Our Action
<p>Communication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More Twitter posts from all classes • A box under each question on the survey for a comment 	<p>All classes are encouraged to share the children's learning on Twitter but sometimes the week is too busy. We will continue to try to ensure all classes are on Twitter. The questionnaire format does not allow a comment box under each question but additional comments can be made at the end of the questionnaire.</p>
<p>Children's academic progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure challenge for all children • Updates about a child's progress between parent's evening 	<p>All the staff know their children very well. The children, no matter what ability, are challenged. It may be that homework is not challenging as the majority of homework is revisiting and consolidating the learning from the lesson.</p> <p>If you are concerned about your child's progress then please contact your child's class teacher in between parent's evenings. If staff had any concerns about the progress of your child they would contact you to discuss this.</p>
<p>Homework</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not challenging enough • Prefer homework to be linked to classwork especially for maths homework • Too much project homework that takes a lot of time and effort with lots of support needed • Reception children to have numeracy homework as well as literacy 	<p>Homework is always a problem in school. We either give too much/not enough or it isn't challenging. Homework is mainly consolidation of learning unless we ask the children to research an area which will be part of their learning in future weeks.</p> <p>Homework increases as the children moves through the school. I feel that it is important not to give too much homework especially in reception as we want to nurture a love of learning and not give children undue anxiety about homework. Children work hard in school, let them enjoy some relaxation time at home.</p>
<p>School to be more considerate for working parents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Difficulty in attending meetings/activities at short notice 	<p>As a school, we try to give as much notice as possible, which is why there is a long list of dates at the end of every newsletter. Sometimes changes have to be made and we do understand the problem of attending school events at short notice. We understand that not all parents can attend all events and we talk to the children about this. It is important that the children begin to learn that parents cannot always be at every performance/event.</p>
<p>Lunchtimes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More opportunities with food quality • Bread and butter with separate filling option when child does not like the choices 	<p>School dinners always come up on the questionnaire. The quality of the food is very good. It is freshly cooked every day. We have a wide range of salad options and vegetables as well as fruit, yogurts and a pudding every day. Sandwiches are not offered as it would cause more waste and the children who would prefer a sandwich would tend to want the same filling every day. This would not give the children a varied diet.</p>

<p>After school clubs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some craft/art/non sport related clubs • Children's cookery, jewellery making clubs • Sometimes miscommunication about starting and finishing dates for clubs 	<p>As we are planning after school clubs for Autumn term we will look into widening the choice. Cookery club would be a problem as Butterflies and Bugs uses the food technology room for their club every day.</p> <p>Most of the clubs begin and end in the same week - they only vary if the area used for the club has to be used for something else or if an outside provider gives different dates.</p>
<p>Safety Parking issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resolve traffic issues at drop off and pick up times 	<p>In every newsletter I ask parents and carers to take care when parking in the car park and around school. It is every driver's responsibility to park sensibly, drive carefully and ensure the roads around school and the car park is safe for all. Hopefully the new signs will help.</p>
<p>General school organization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Butterflies and bugs to open at 7.30 and close at 6.00pm • No Christmas performance for Year 1 • Not enough physical activity • Inset days should be aligned with other schools in Gosforth. • A few more outings/trips as they seem to have decreased over the years 	<p>The cleaning staff and caretaker need time to ensure the rooms are ready for Butterflies and Bugs opening at 7.45am. It is already a long day for children from 7.45 to 5.50 without it being longer.</p> <p>As the school is getting larger we will have to adapt our activities within each year group. Last school year the children in year 1 just sang the songs - and were not part of the performance. If we had each year group giving a performance then Christmas would begin in November which is not the best for young children and it would take up too much time so the children would miss too much of their curriculum learning.</p> <p>All classes do at least 1 and very often 2 sessions of physical activity a week plus the children are involved in the Golden Mile. As a school, we have to fit a lot into the curriculum and PE is just one of many other areas of the curriculum.</p> <p>Training days are set across Gosforth Schools' Trust so all first schools, GEMS and Central Middle should have the same days.</p> <p>We try to ensure every year group has at least one visit each term. Sometimes due to the topic area it is not possible. We have to take into account the rising costs of visits out of school especially the transport costs so we try to have a mix of visitors to school and visits out of school.</p>