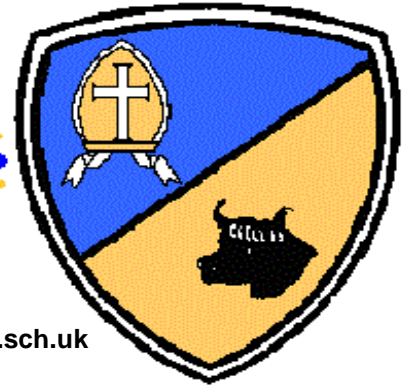


ST. LUKE'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to everyone who completed a questionnaire about your views of St. Luke's. We really appreciate you taking the time to complete them and it has been extremely useful, as we value your feedback.

In total, we had fifty four replies and the feedback was extremely positive. This was the best and most encouraging response yet.

It is very pleasing that the vast majority of parents who sent the questionnaire back feel strongly that: their child or children are happy at school; feel safe; are making good progress; are taught well; needs are met; are well looked after; the school is well led and managed; the school responds well to your concerns; you receive valuable information about your child's progress and that the school makes sure that their pupils are well-behaved. It is also pleasing to see that all of you would recommend our school to other parents.

We also received positive comments such as:

'The school has always met my child's needs even when she has needed extra care'

'Teachers and staff are always on hand if you need them'

'This is a fantastic school with a great ethos'

'As always, very happy with how our child is taught and cared for at St Luke's'

'I find the DOJO app very useful and it makes me feel more included in the school life'

'My child has settled brilliantly into school'

'My children are really happy at school'

'Supportive school that welcomes parents to engage with teachers to meet the needs of their children'

'My children are very happy at school and I have recommended it to other parents'

'Really happy with the support my child has in school both academically and pastorally'

'We are delighted with the school and teachers'

'Parents' evening was very informative this year with strategies and techniques suggested to help develop my children further'

The new format of Parents' Evening was welcomed by the majority of parents and carers. We intend to continue with this format for the future. However one parent made a valid point about having the opportunity to see their child's classroom and where their child 'spends her day'. Therefore we intend to have an open classroom visit once a term where you will have the chance to talk to the class teacher and to have a look at displays and your child's work.

One parent suggested an interim report to address any issues mid-term. There are two Parent Consultation Evenings and you also receive an End of Year Report. However, we do operate an open door policy and you can arrange a time to speak to the class teacher should you need to have an update on your child's progress at any point during the school year.

Another parent suggested communicating the school newsletter in electronic format. I am pleased to say in our plans to become a paperless school, we have been preparing for this and, as of Friday 9th November, the newsletter will be sent via the school texting service to parents and carers. This will save school a huge amount of printing and admin costs. However, paper copies will still be available on request from the school office.

As requested by one parent we are in the process of supplementing our book banded reading material for key stage 1 with 'newer' books.

One parent suggested, 'maybe a little more homework in years 5 and 6 to get the children ready for the amount of homework they receive in high school.' As a school we believe in the importance of mental well-being and we try to find the right amount of homework suitable for each age range. Currently Years 5 and 6 receive enough homework to ensure the right balance between school and home-life. Different high schools operate different policies therefore the amount of homework can differ from one school to another. Throughout Year 6 the homework does increase as they work towards SATs, although we do give them a breather once the tests are over! We will pick up the homework towards the end of the year just so that the children are prepared for the transition to high school.

Another useful comment from one parent was about school communicating information prior to school events for new parents, such as those in Reception class. We have noted this and we will include information about school events, prior to them taking place, on the weekly newsletter. With regards to individual class events, the teachers will keep parents informed via the DOJO messaging service and the school class website pages.

I am taking this opportunity to further address some feedback from questionnaires completed by parents in previous years. Firstly, flooding has always been an issue at St Luke's and in the area of Lowton. Through the support of funding from the Diocese, we were able to survey and repair a huge proportion of the drains. As you can imagine this cost a lot of money, therefore there is still work to be done - we have bid for further funding to finish the job! As a result, we are already seeing the benefits as the 'pooling' of water has reduced considerably. Flooding affects the surface of the playground which has in turn affected our many attempts to colourfully mark the playground for the pupils. Once the drainage work has been completed, we will draw our attention to resurfacing and marking the school playground to make it an even more attractive play area for our children. The Friends' of St Luke's are supporting the fundraising for this project.

Next, adequate lighting during evening events and after school clubs. I am extremely pleased that we have secured another Diocesan funding bid to provide lighting down the school drive, car park and on the school playground.

Finally, we are coming to the end of a five year school building development which has resulted in the total refurbishment and remodelling of the entire school building. I am proud to say that we now have a learning environment that the children of St Luke's deserve! I would like to thank you for your support over the last few years with these projects.

Thank you again for completing the questionnaire; it is very much appreciated. Please do not feel that you need to wait for another questionnaire if you have any concerns. At St Luke's we do try to operate an 'open door' policy and by this we mean staff being available to talk to parents at the end of the school day. To make this manageable, we ask that parents contact the school office to make an appointment. This helps us to make sure that the relevant staff are available as sometimes staff are running extra-curricular clubs, are on training courses or attending a staff meeting and alternative arrangements may need to be made. Parents can of course make arrangements to see myself or Mrs Derbyshire.

On behalf of the staff, children and school Governors, may I thank you for such overwhelmingly positive comments about the school and what we do to support your children. We have worked hard to build strong partnerships with our community members and you have endorsed our commitment to securing the best possible outcomes for all. It has been a humbling (and on occasion quite moving) experience to read the wonderful comments from parents/carers about the respect you have for the school and feeling of goodwill and support you offer - thank you so much.

Yours sincerely,

S. Hardaker
Mr S. Hardaker
Headteacher

ANALYSIS OF QUESTIONNAIRES

Numbers of parents/carers who completed the questionnaires:

		Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
1	My child is happy at school.	41	12	1		
2	My child feels safe at school.	45	9			
3	My child is making good progress at school.	41	12	1		
4	The school meets my child's particular needs.	44	10			
5	The school ensures that my child is well looked after.	46	8			
6	My child is taught well at school.	47	7			
7	My child is given appropriate homework for their age.	35	14	2		2
8	The school makes sure that its pupils are well-behaved.	43	9	1		1
9	The school deals with any cases of bullying effectively. (Bullying includes: persistent name calling, cyber, racist and homophobic bullying)	27	7			18
10	The school helps me to support my child's learning.	41	11			
11	The school responds well to my concerns.	42	10			
12	I receive valuable information from school about my child's progress.	41	12	1		1
13	The school is well-led and managed.	44	8			1
14	I would recommend the school to another parent.	46	8			
15	If you want to explain any of your answers, or if there is anything else you want the Headteacher to know, please tell us here.					

NB: Maximum number of responses 54, two questions not answered. 1 parent ticked half way between strongly agree and agree for question 13. 2 parents ticked half way between agree and disagree for questions 7, 10 and 11.



