

# **Thythorn Field Primary School**

## **Parent Voice Survey Summer 2021**



We would like to thank all parents and carers who took the time to respond to our Parent Voice survey recently.

Getting your feedback is always helpful so that we can reflect on what we are doing well and how we can improve in the future.

We have compiled the outcomes and some of our thoughts below:

### **Question 1) How satisfied have you been with our communication this year? (including weekly newsletters, other letters, social media channels, telephone calls, face-to-face conversations, texts and email correspondence)**

**42 (98%) parents are satisfied or very satisfied – 33 being very satisfied.  
1 parent is dissatisfied.**

**We really do appreciate the positive feedback as we pride ourselves on our communication with parents and carers; staff email addresses are shared on the website and all teachers, as well as Mr Smyton, try to ensure that they are available at the start and end of the school day to speak to parents and are available by phone. We have extended our routes of communication to include: published email addresses, Seesaw, Tapestry, weekly newsletters as both hard copies and online and additional parents' meetings.**

**Communicating the ever changing government guidance this year has been very challenging but care has been taken to ensure that all our letters are clear, prompt and given as both hard copies and online.**

### **Question 2) How satisfied have you been with the updates regarding your child's learning this year? (including two termly data snapshot reports, a full end of year report, three Parents' Evenings, regular updates to class website pages - learning journeys etc, verbal feedback, and emails)**

**36 (84%) parents are satisfied or very satisfied – 25 being very satisfied  
5 parents responded neutrally  
2 parents are dissatisfied**

**Schools are required to provide 1 opportunity for parents to discuss their child's progress with a teacher and 1 written report per year. We feel that the partnership between home and school, in securing the best outcomes for the children, is paramount so we have exceeded this significantly by offering 3 parents' evening opportunities for parents to discuss progress and two snapshot reports in addition to the full end of year report. The snapshots are intended to share data outcomes, attendance data and also a brief overview of each child's learning dispositions. The snapshots also invite parents to make contact if there is anything they wish to discuss. The end of year report contains all of the above plus commentary on each child's attainment, progress and time in school and next steps in their learning.**

**Staff email addresses have been shared with parents and are on the school website and staff are contactable through Seesaw or tapestry and by phone. Where children have shared things from home on Seesaw or Tapestry staff will always feedback. Staff are always more than happy to speak to parents regarding their child's learning, progress and attainment.**

**Question 3) If your child worked at home during the COVID pandemic how satisfied were you with the feedback that your child received in response to their submission of their home learning? (e.g. via Tapestry, Seesaw, email, Zoom sessions)**

**38 (93%) parents are satisfied or very satisfied – 32 being very satisfied  
2 parents responded neutrally  
1 parent was dissatisfied**

**We would like to thank all parents and families for providing such insightful and regular updates whilst children were completing home learning and for encouraging children to share their work. We were so pleased with how well received both Tapestry and Seesaw were this year as a route to share and feedback on learning and we thank parents and carers for promoting this with their children. There have been several thousand interactions between pupils and staff through these routes this year; including verbal feedback, written feedback and video feedback. Children who attended our zoom sessions also benefitted from direct interaction with their teacher. We will continue to utilise these tools next year and are currently reviewing how they can make the maximum impact.**

**Question 4) How satisfied were you with the breadth and pitch of the home learning provided? (if working at home during lockdown and/or if your child has needed to self-isolate.)**

**36 (88%) parents are satisfied or very satisfied – 30 being very satisfied  
4 parents responded neutrally  
1 parent was dissatisfied**

**Thank you for the positive feedback. Staff have worked very hard to ensure that the curriculum offered during lockdown/self-isolation matches as closely as possible the curriculum that would be taught in 'normal' times. They created a large number of bespoke resources including videos and live lessons to support this. We are proud that we were able to provide differentiated tasks for all pupils in a wide variety of subjects, whilst the children were learning at home. We continue to review our practice and seek to learn from our experience should such a situation arise again in the future.**

**What do you believe Thythorn Field has done well this year?**

**Everything! Your dedication and commitment to the children have been outstanding and much appreciated. This year has been difficult for a lot of parents and their children and the support, encouragement and work provided has been amazing so thank you**

**Thank you, it has indeed been a difficult year and we thank all our parents and carers for working so closely with us for the benefit of the children.**

**The last lockdown online teaching was great so much better than the first lockdown**

**We learnt so much during the first lockdown which was dropped on us all very suddenly. We worked hard between the first and second lockdown to train, plan, prepare and secure resources to ensure that our future home learning provision would be even better and as good as it could be.**

**Helping children's mental health and staying positive throughout the pandemic**

**We recognise how important this is and have ensured that we prioritised this during lockdown and on the children's return to school and continue to do so.**

**Smiling happy looking teachers during a pandemic. Makes a big difference to the children.**

**Thank you.**

**The communication between the school and children during home learning. For example the videos that were provided by the teachers to explain the work really helped the children feel connected to the school. Mr Smyton's assemblies were also a big hit.**

**Thank you.**

Very supportive.
<b>Thank you.</b>
An amazing job given the unique circumstances safety of kids and staff was taken extremely seriously and we thank you for that.
<b>Thank you.</b>
Incredible this year.
<b>Thank you.</b>
Communication, care, understanding and sympathy
<b>Thank you.</b>
This year has been brilliant, all things considered.
<b>Thank you.</b>
Communication throughout has been brilliant.
<b>Thank you.</b>
I think the school has been amazing the support was there when needed
<b>Thank you.</b>
Everything so well led, managed and organised. Teachers really approachable.
<b>Thank you.</b>
It's been as good as we could hope for in the circumstances and we are very happy parents. Thank you.
<b>Thank you.</b>
Amazing home learning- wonderful daily videos of how to do each task and extra zoom meetings to support the children's learning. Eg reading, maths. Assemblies still continued over lockdown so children still felt part of their school family. Always informed of what is happening in school. My child has loved the topics and it has inspired him to read around the topic and explore more. The school still feels like a family community despite lockdown. Friendly approachable staff who meet and greet children and parents daily so communication is good and on-going. We are really happy with the journey our child is embarking on at Thythorn
<b>Thank you.</b>
Thythorn has done so well with dealing with covid 19 and children who went to school for many reasons .. going out the way to help each child with the learning
<b>Thank you.</b>
Excellent management of learning through home-schooling and a generally tough year. We have ended the year with a happy child who was initially anxious about returning to school and had ended up fed up of learning at home who still loves learning and school after time there.
<b>Thank you.</b>
The information shared about my child's learning during a crazy year, even with months at home has been excellent and really appreciated. To have three parent's evenings when other schools have done one and to have three reports when most schools have just one plus test scores etc is brilliant. This school has gone over and above in so many ways this year. I am so glad we chose it.
<b>Thank you.</b>
Such a tough year. Our girl is very happy and loves school. You have done fantastic
<b>Thank you.</b>
Supported the children through such a difficult year
<b>Thank you.</b>

Offering support with emotional well-being and mental health
<b>This remains very important to all in school. In addition to the support offered by teachers and support staff we continue to offer ELSA support, Drawing and Talking Therapy and RELATE counselling.</b>
Brilliant communication. Head and teacher make sure we have all the information we need and answer any questions we have.
<b>Thank you.</b>
I think they have kept the school routine as normal as possible through the pandemic
<b>Thank you.</b>
Everything. Thank you Mr Smyton and staff.
<b>Thank you.</b>
Communications from the head teacher
<b>Thank you.</b>
Excellent organisation and routines to get the children back to some type of normality
<b>Thank you.</b>
Good support for the children.
<b>Thank you.</b>
Everything!! Its been unprecedented and we as a family have felt totally supported by the school and fully aware of the ever changing guidelines.
<b>There have indeed been ever changing guidelines all through the year and this has presented unprecedented challenges for schools. As a team we have worked hard to interpret these, take necessary steps and communicate clearly and promptly.</b>
Such a tough year, everyone is doing what they can. Thank you
<b>Thank you.</b>
Keep doing what you are doing and thank you !
<b>Thank you.</b>
Great support for the children through class teachers on Seesaw. Lots of praise and recognition for the work. Really kept my child motivated. Also little messages and likes from Mr Smyton made her feel the work was being recognised and valued like it would be in school. Lots and lots of hard work went into recording videos, instructions and providing individual work feedback. Thank you.
<b>Thank you.</b>
<b>What do you believe we could improve or work on for next academic year?</b>
If Covid allows being able to watch sports day( not restricted), leavers party and field trips as well as being able to be a part of our children's schooling and taking part in their activity days which I've really missed!
<b>We couldn't agree more! We hope that once restrictions are lifted and government guidance allows we will be able to have lots of opportunities to go out and about and have people in to school. We are proud that we have managed to safely provide some face to face parents' meetings, a school residential, a field trip to the canal, an owl expert into school and a sports day with supporters as well as online, virtual celebrations when many schools have been unable to provide any such opportunities this year. We really do look forward to being able to allow parents and carers back into school!</b>
The snapshot reports were very vague and I felt as good as parents evening was it would have been lovely to have had longer to look through their workbooks
<b>Schools are required to provide 1 opportunity for parents to discuss their child's progress with a teacher and 1 written report per year. We feel that the partnership between home and school, in securing the best outcomes for the children, is paramount so we have exceeded this significantly by offering 3 parents' evening opportunities for parents to discuss progress and two snapshot</b>

reports in addition to the full end of year report. The snapshots are intended to share data outcomes, attendance data and also a brief overview of each child's learning dispositions. The snapshots also invite parents to make contact if there is anything they wish to discuss. The end of year report contains all of the above plus commentary on each child's attainment, progress and time in school and next steps in their learning.

There have been limitations on how children's workbooks can be viewed and shared brought about through COVID risk assessments but once things return to normal the opportunities will be present to look at work at length. We were pleased to have been able to give some parents the opportunity to come in to school, albeit in a COVID secure way, for meetings when many schools have not.

**Keeping the start and end times staggered. It's a lot less stressful**

**This is something we will be discussing and consulting on.**

**Restrictions dependant but it would be really good to have the time where parents can come in to see the different subjects being taught being available again.**

**Agreed. As soon as we are allowed we will.**

**Detail in school reports to be more personalised. To communicate effectively how child doing on daily basis**

**Each class has close to 30 children in it. It would not be possible to communicate how each child is doing on a daily basis.**

The non-statutory snapshots are intended to share data outcomes, attendance data and also a brief overview of each child's learning dispositions. The snapshots also invite parents to make contact if there is anything they wish to discuss. The end of year report contains all of the above plus commentary on each child's attainment, progress and time in school and next steps in their learning.

**Better communication we are just finding out now some things about our kids we really should have been made aware off a while ago**

**We operate an open-door policy. We make ourselves very available by phone, email, Seesaw, Tapestry and face to face: including Mr Smyton and Mrs Brewster (SENDCo) who are available outside throughout the week to talk to parents and carers. We have provided 3 parents' evenings this year as well as 2 data/attendance and attribute snapshots inviting parents to contact us if they wish further clarification and a full written report at the end of the year. We also send home, and publish to our website, a weekly newsletter.**

**We will always aim to inform parents at the earliest opportunity if there are any matters of concern but would ask parents to contact the teacher, SENDCo or Headteacher if needed.**

**I think we need to have more fun days e.g world book day etc . Make this new academic year even special for each child As they have missed so much over the months .**

**Indeed. So many of these events were impacted by COVID this year but will be very much part of our planning when restrictions relax.**

**More specific feedback individual to child. Reports too general and not personal.**

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<p>Not sure on the improvements as this year isn't standard but I would say some of the processes that you've had in terms of organisation should be kept. The newsletter is great. The engagement is great. I do worry for the children and their anxieties which you've tried so hard on focus on.</p>
<p><b>We are indeed reviewing all of our organisational processes and will look to take the best things forward into next year.</b></p>
<p>Not just Thythorn, all schools in general. More training and awareness of neurodiversity.....for staff of all levels</p>
<p><b>Thank you for this feedback.</b></p>
<p><b>Communication between teachers and parents</b></p>
<p><b>Schools are required to provide 1 opportunity for parents to discuss their child's progress with a teacher and 1 written report per year. We feel that the partnership between home and school, in securing the best outcomes for the children, is paramount so we have exceeded this significantly by offering 3 parents' evening opportunities for parents to discuss progress and two snapshot reports in addition to the full end of year report. The snapshots are intended to share data outcomes, attendance data and also a brief overview of each child's learning dispositions. The snapshots also invite parents to make contact if there is anything they wish to discuss. The end of year report contains all of the above plus commentary on each child's attainment, progress and time in school and next steps in their learning.</b></p> <p><b>Staff email addresses have been shared with parents and are on the school website and staff are contactable through Seesaw or tapestry and by phone. Where children have shared things from home on Seesaw or Tapestry staff will always feedback. Staff are always more than happy to speak to parents regarding their child's learning, progress and attainment.</b></p>
<p>Develop additional opportunities for a breadth of subjects eg home economics and more sports/music/languages. Also how to further develop high performing students (especially when home learning had an impact) better opportunities for children to come together if home learning is necessary in the future.</p>
<p><b>Our curriculum offering this year, like all schools, has been impacted by COVID risk assessments however we have worked hard not to narrow it too much and teach a broad and engaging curriculum as close as possible to 'normal times'. We value all subjects and recognise that different children have different strengths and interests. We continue to seek additional extra-curricular opportunities too.</b></p> <p><b>If there are future home learning requirements we will continue to utilise technology to bring children together safely.</b></p>
<p>Setting homework in books not online and having spellings back in a spellings book rather than having to look online.</p>
<p><b>COVID regulations have meant limitations to what can be sent to and from home/school. As restrictions lift, books will be sent home as required. The online aspect supporting homework has many benefits – ensuring homework can be accessed even if a book is forgotten or misplaced and can be accessed anywhere.</b></p>
<p>Communication, although it has improved could do a little better.</p>
<p><b>We are always looking for ways to improve things and welcome all feedback.</b></p>

We remain committed to giving all our children the best education possible and are proud of our school. A successful, positive partnership between home and school is so important in ensuring each child gets the very best from their time with us. Thank you for all the feedback both in this survey and through the many supportive emails and letters we have received. We welcome developmental feedback and often we find it tallies with our own developmental priorities. If indeed you ever have any concerns, questions or worries then please do contact us at the earliest opportunity.

Richard Smyton  
Acting Headteacher

Riahn Wills  
Parental Engagement Lead