



Chaucer Infant and Nursery School

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2nd December 2015

Dear Parents,

Parental Questionnaire

In May 2015 we sent out the results from our School Parental Questionnaire and said that we would discuss all your ideas when we developed our 2015 - 2016 School Improvement Plan. Below I have listed some of the 'school would be even better if' ideas that you proposed and the outcomes regarding our discussions on how to address them.

1. 'We were given more information on how to support children with school work'

We try to get the balance of homework right, sometimes parents feel we send too much and some too little. You can support your child by reading regularly, reinforcing the target in your child's chat book, by practising their spellings (for those children that have spellings), completing activities in their reading journal and ensuring they can access their Abacus maths homework (Year 1 and 2).

We will be sending out year group expectations soon so you have a clearer picture of what your child is expected to know and be able to do by the end of each year. We will also put these on the school website under the heading 'Parents Area' and under the tab 'Year Group Expectations'.

If you want some specific help on how to support your child please do see your child's class teacher for advice.

2. 'The website was updated weekly'

We now have a member of staff who updates parts of the website on a weekly basis. Class teachers should all now be updating their weekly blogs.

3. 'They have swimming lessons'

Although I agree that swimming is an excellent skill to learn it is part of the Key Stage 2 curriculum and I will gladly leave it to the junior school!

4. 'Maybe more school trips although I know this depends on funding'

Each year group has one main school trip a year, however the teachers do also take the children to events held at Erewash Museum and this year Friends and Families are contributing towards the cost of Years 1 and 2 going to a Pantomime in Derby.

5. 'I thought it was a shame that they didn't get to dress up for World Book Day and it would be lovely if this could be added to the school year'

The children will be dressing up this year!

6. 'School council was changed. I think it should be changed and have different children in during the year, so more kids get a go. I also think if you have done it once you shouldn't be allowed to do it again.'

The School Council is changed every year, we have fresh elections each year and our first meeting is held in the Mayor's Parlour, with the Mayor (when possible). The organisation of this means it can only be a yearly event, however the School Council ask their class for ideas prior to each meeting, so all children get a chance to contribute proposals. Children who have previously been on the School Council are now not allowed to put their name forward again.

7. 'They let the children out quicker after school'

The staff aim to get the children out on time, but making sure children only go with the person they are supposed to is paramount. This does impact particularly in Year 1 as staff only let children go one at a time and it can take time to spot you. We realise this does slow the process down especially if your child is at the back, but just ask you to be patient.

8. 'Maybe more options for after school activities at Chaucer, not necessarily run by school, maybe an outside organisation'

We have previously done this, but have had issues with the behaviour management skills of the outside tutors and so have not pursued this for a few years. I will look into options this year for clubs other than sports.

9. 'More notice or actual date/time to allow for easier attendance at assemblies/events'

Please do check the calendar on the school website. I will ask the member of staff to input all dates for the year as they are agreed.

10. 'General question. If children don't have internet access at home, can they be asked, to have the opportunity to use useful websites at break and lunch time (or other suitable times)?'

Class teachers in Year 1 and 2 have organised this to allow children to access the online Abacus homework

Yours sincerely

C S Beattie