

Thank you to everyone who responded to our online Parent Survey for Autumn 2018. We had 412 respondents, although not everyone answered every question. This is probably the highest response we have had in the 8 ½ years I have been here – amazing! We know that this is because it was sent via Parent Mail and that is fabulous! Because it was our initial foray into Parent Mail surveys, we forgot to put a comment box on - sorry! Next time we will add one as we love to read any comments you have. Please have a read about the results below. If you forgot to reply this time, there will be another one in January 2019 – so look out for that. Thanks very much. Trudi Toms - Head Teacher and very happy lady!

Question	
1 My child enjoys going to school	95.4% of parents who responded said that they agreed or strongly agreed with this. That is great to know. The remaining 4.6% either disagreed or did not know. We try to make school life as much fun, with enjoyable learning activities, as we can. If your child is not enjoying school at the moment, please do come in and discuss this with your child's class teacher to see if we can do anything to help.
2 My child feels safe and well cared for in school	98.3% of respondents were positive about this. Again the remaining 1.7% included some "Don't know". We do everything we can to ensure that safeguarding is up to date in school, we have a policy (available on the website) which is created using the LA model. All our staff are vigilant for any issues in school and we always deal with things as soon as they arise and once we are informed. Our site is secure and we are always careful with any visitors to school. We have clear Behaviour and Anti Bullying policies and there is a named Governor on our Governor Board who liaises with school regarding any issues which arise, quality assuring the way we deal with things. We do realise that some parents (5) feel that their child does not feel safe – again, please do come in and talk to us about this.
3 I feel welcome in school and am encouraged to be involved in my child's education	96.8% of respondents agreed with this. Great news for us. Of the remaining 1.7%, 9 did not know and the rest (4) disagreed. We try to make all our families feel welcome, whether that be popping into either office for information or guidance, or coming in to see your child's learning. We have numerous events where parents / carers / grandparents etc are invited into school. There are Stay and Learns in every year group, we have just had our 'Spelling Drop – in' sessions, we have invited you to church for the Harvest Celebration and there is also always the invitation to come in and volunteer in class. If you want to be further involved in school, ask in either office. Look at your 'Dates for Parents' sheet for upcoming dates and always check the newsletter for updates and anything additional.

<p>4 I feel the school is approachable when I have a query or problem</p>	<p>96.1% of you said that you at least agreed with this, in fact 64.1% strongly agreed. This is a credit to our Office staff who try to be amenable wherever possible. Teachers will also always try to accommodate any queries and if you want to speak to your child's teacher, all you have to do is ask. 10 people said that they did not know. Hopefully this is a good thing as they have never needed to come in for anything! You can contact school via either office, telephone (0114 2570730 – Infants / 2570153 - Juniors), email thorpehesleyprimary@rotherham.school, or via Twiter or Facebook. Although staff do not work 24 hours a day, we always try to pick up social media enquiries as soon as possible.</p>
<p>5 I feel the school works closely with parents / carers</p>	<p>Again this was a very positive reply with 93.9% agreeing or strongly agreeing. 14 people said that they did not know – I am hoping these are our new parents who have children who just started in Green Class and do not know us well yet. There were 11/ 412 people who disagreed here. We are always available to parents in whatever way we can, with information being passed wherever possible. Our Parent Mail system ensures parents receive any information going out. There is also our weekly newsletter and Twitter is updated many times during the day by different classes. If we have an issue with a child regarding behaviour or attainment, we contact the parent individually to discuss this. Parents Evenings are planned in every term, Reading Records completed (by both school and home) and all parents should have received a leaflet outlining the learning for this term and what the homework expectations are. If you do not have this, please check the Class pages on the website https://www.thorpehesleyprimary.rotherham.sch.uk/ There is also lots of other information on there for you to see. Your child has targets to aim for to improve their learning - these are in their Reading Record book and updated as necessary.</p>
<p>6 My child is encouraged to show good behaviour in school</p>	<p>99.5% of respondents agreed with this, with less than 1% (3 people) who did not know. We are very proud of behaviour in our school and our Golden Rules and positive Behaviour Policy work very well. All staff take responsibility for behaviour across the whole of school and no one walks past a child misbehaving. We deal with poor behaviour as a team. We are often complimented on the behaviour of our children, both by visitors to school and when we go out on school on visits. For instance, the recent Y6 residential to Boggle Hole prompted so many compliments from everyone we came across – residential staff, the ice cream shop and even the RNLI people. We are proud of our children and have high expectations and they always live up to it!</p>
<p>7 Behaviour in school</p>	<p>89% of our families agreed or strongly agreed with this. There were 66% of respondents that felt they</p>

<p>appears to be well managed</p>	<p>strongly agreed – a real compliment to staff. There will always be children who do not behave appropriately 100% of the time – just as out in the real world there are people who do not always behave as we would like. However, the point is, what do we do about it? We always respond to poor behaviour and praise those children setting a good example. Our school is geared towards promoting positive behaviour and the reward systems we have in place (Golden Tickets, merits, class points, Special Table) all highlight this.</p>
<p>8 I feel the school communicates effectively about what is happening in school. Eg: through newsletter, Twitter, Facebook, website</p>	<p>Less than 2% of people who responded (8/412) disagreed with this. We have all the aforementioned ways of communicating with parents / families as well as via ParentMail texts and emails. In these times of tricky budgets, we are trying to be as paperless as possible and send everything – letters and newsletters – by email. So if you are not receiving these then please check we have your correct details. If you need paper copies, just ask in either office.</p>
<p>9 The standards of teaching are good</p>	<p>Everybody agreed with this, just a small percentage (11/412) said they did not know. We know we have the best staff in Rotherham and indeed the world – as agreed by Ofsted! Everybody who has anything to do with your children, from teachers, support staff or Higher Level Teaching Assistants (HLTAs) give 100% to everything they do with your children, whether that be work or play! Our results for every area, from EYFS, Phonics and end of KS1 to end of KS2 are fabulous, above local and national figures in every area. We have particularly great results at KS1 and KS2 for Greater Depth children. Results are on the website if you are interested.</p>
<p>10 The school keeps me fully informed about my child's progress.</p>	<p>5.6% (23/214) said they did not feel this was so. We do have lots of meetings where parents are invited to come in and see their child's learning, for example the Stay and Learns and sharing work assemblies in Multi-Cultural half term. We also have a Parents Evening in every term (dates on your Dates for Parents sheet) where parents have individual meetings and there are always the Record of Achievements that go home in July. Every child has individual targets which are in their Reading Record book and these are changed as your child achieves them. Take a look at those to see what your child needs to work on to improve their attainment and you can help them at home. The homework we send home should also give you a really good idea of where your child is for maths, writing and spelling. Any parent can ask to speak to their child's class teacher at any time during the year additional to this. Just contact either office and they will sort it out.</p>
<p>11 The school expects my child to work hard and</p>	<p>Everybody agreed or strongly agreed with this apart from 5/214 people who did not know. We always expect the best from our children – and their families! That is why we are the best school in</p>

achieve their best.	Rotherham and indeed the world!
12 I am happy with the progress my child is making.	94.6% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed with this. There were 4 / 214 who disagreed and I urge those parents to come into school and discuss their worries with the class teacher. See questions 9 and 11 for information regarding this.
13 The school is well led and managed	<p>96.6% of our 214 respondents agreed or strongly agreed with this. (75.3 strongly agreed which is fabulous!) Only 1/214 disagreed, a real shame as our leadership at all levels work very very hard.</p> <p>We are very lucky to have an amazing group of people leading in our school. The Senior Leadership Team work extremely hard to ensure all goes smoothly and they inspire the rest of the staff to follow their lead. We are a very positive staff and I think this shines out from our school – we lead by example!</p> <p>The office is led by Mrs Screaton who does an amazing job; she also makes sure we never run out of money – although that is getting harder and harder. She also stops me buying too much glitter to ensure we stay within budget! 😊</p> <p>We have a fabulous set of Governors, led by Mrs Kerry Hattersley, who all give their time up for no financial reward – just the knowledge that they are constantly helping our school improve, challenging staff (and me!) and volunteering to help.</p> <p>This is now year 9 (scarily) of my being here – 4 years as Junior School Head and this is our 5th year of amalgamation where I was appointed Primary School Head. (Where did that time go?!) I could not wish for a more rewarding job and I truly hope that you can see how much I enjoy my role. I feel that Thorpe Hesley is a reflection of my vision for a better world and we are a little oasis of loveliness, supported by a fabulous staff and amazing families. We are, as I say many times, building citizens of the future who will make the world a better place.</p>
14 The school has a pleasant, well maintained and friendly environment with attractive displays of children's work	<p>Again, only 1/214 disagreed with this. I can only think that they have not really had a chance to walk around school in all it's fabulousness. The 99% of people who did agree had 80.7% strongly agreeing.</p> <p>School always looks amazing and staff work very hard to ensure that there are consistently bright, colourful and informative displays up. That is in classrooms, halls <i>and</i> corridors. We ensure that all displays have a mixture of lots of work on them; writing, maths, creative and other subjects such as geography, history or science. We also ensure that work from all year groups are on show in both buildings so that children can see examples of work from their peers but also younger or older children.</p> <p>We have such a fabulous learning environment that visitors from other schools always comment positively and take picture and ideas back to their own settings.</p> <p>We try to have lots of opportunities for you, as parents, to look around at work on display – but if you haven't had chance, please do drop in after school any day when you will be very welcome!</p>

<p>15 The school makes good use of budget and provides good resources to support my child's education</p>	<p>88.2% of you agreed with this. 11% said they did not know and 0.7% (3/214 people) said they disagreed. We have tried very hard to ensure that, as parents, you understand the budget we get and, as you will know because it is a national issue, we do not get as much as we would like or need!</p> <p>Although the government say that they have not reduced budgets in any way, they have actually not increased our money whilst taking additional money from us for things like increased pension and National Insurance payments, Apprenticeship levy etc. This has meant that, as we lost one of our 'lump sums' of over £100,000 when we amalgamated, we have a very tight budget. We receive less funding per pupil than other schools in our area (see https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/school/106850/thorpe-hesley-primary-school) but I feel we do an amazing job with the money we have. We are also eternally grateful for the fact that any fundraising we do is always well supported by our families, whether that be for school funds or charity. We just wouldn't have all the lovely 'extra' bits without that.</p>
<p>16 The school provides a sufficient range of lunch time clubs, after school activities and participation in local events.</p>	<p>84.6% of parents agreed with this, with over 50% strongly agreeing.</p> <p>This is great to hear! We do try to provide as many different activities as we can for our children – from choir to football, lego club to Strictly Dance. We are just putting together a programme of even more things throughout the year and will be letting you know.</p> <p>There are many activities that happen at lunchtimes that you probably don't even know about as your child will just think they are part of school life – Mrs Bailey runs a different club outside every lunchtime in the Junior Building, there are Play Leaders (Y6 children) who work in both buildings to provide additional activities and lots of staff give up their lunchtimes for things like 'Colouring Club' and a 'Greatest Showman Dance Club!'</p>
<p>17 I feel that encouraging my child to do the Daily Mile is a positive thing</p>	<p>We put this question on the survey as it was a new activity for us. However, before I even looked at this response, we had lots of love for it on Twitter and Facebook. ♥</p> <p>I am so pleased to see that over 95% of our respondents agreed, with 78% strongly agreeing. There were only 2/214 people who disagreed as the rest (3.9%) said that they did not know.</p> <p>We are a Healthy School and, as such, ensure that our children do at least 2 hours of PE every week, playtimes and lunchtimes are set up to encourage activity and there are lots of additional things on offer out of school hours. The Daily Mile is a welcome addition to this quest for a healthy community – we are fighting the obesity crisis from our own corner by encouraging children to think healthily and take exercise without it being a chore! For more information – see the Daily Mile website. https://thedailymile.co.uk/</p>
<p>18 I am happy with the Out of Hours provision of</p>	<p>Again, almost everyone agreed with this – 51.5% strongly agreed and 15.6% agreed – a total of 67.1%. The people who did not agree were mainly 'Don't know' (32.2%), which I assume are people who do not</p>

<p>Breakfast Club and After School Woodlies.</p>	<p>need the facility. I apologise to the 3 people who disagreed or strongly disagreed if we are not offering what you require. However, I feel we offer a sterling service at a very reasonable price. Mrs Woodcock, Mr Meares and their team provide a friendly, stimulating and exciting environment as well as tasty snacks and meals. Excellent value for money! We are fortunate at the moment to have space to have two lovely rooms set up permanently. Lots of schools have Breakfast Club in the hall where children just sit and eat toast with no activities provided. (We also have much more exciting food on offer!) I do know some people would like us to start a little earlier, but at the moment this is not possible. We are very flexible with the service and, unlike many schools, you pay for what you book – some schools and settings charge very differently to us. If you only need every other Wednesday, you book and pay for only every other Wednesday – we do not ask that you pay for a regular day if that does not suit your life – or work – style. We also allow last minute bookings.</p>
<p>19 The school provides a good and welcoming induction for new pupils</p>	<p>89.5% agreed or strongly agreed with this. Only 3 people disagreed and the rest said they did not know. Whatever year group your child begins their school life with us, I do hope that you are welcomed and supported. We have amazing staff in all year groups but our EYFS team are particularly nurturing and understanding about how hard it is for you – and your child – when everything is new. Mrs Cullumbine (EYFS Leader) runs a tight and fabulous ship!</p>
<p>20 I am happy that my child attends Thorpe Hesley Primary School</p>	<p>Of all the questions on this survey – this is the one I am most interested in. I truly hope that you are happy that you chose our school for your child. Some of you may have selected us because it was geographically easy and we are your catchment school, some may have done lots of research and selected us from that. What I will say is, whatever your reason for coming to be part of our community, we always hope that you feel you have made a good decision. I am proud to say that 99.6% of people answered this very positively, with a storming 85.3% strongly agreeing. One person disagreed and one did not know. Your decision around your child’s primary school is subject to parental choice and, luckily, most of our parents who have made that choice feel they have made the right one. We are oversubscribed in nearly every year group and the 70 children we should have in each swells all the time as people go to appeal to get in. Some of our year groups have 72 or 74 in them. Thank you for choosing us!</p>