



HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Tuesday 6th September 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome back to you all, I hope that you all enjoyed a wonderful summer break. Thank you to all those parents and carers who completed the termly questionnaire sent out at the end of last term. I spent some time during the summer break reading through your questionnaires and enjoyed hearing your overwhelming number of positive comments and also working out how best to act upon your suggestions for improvement. I have summarised your comments below as well as the actions we intend to take as a result.

What went well:

- International Evening
- Summer Music Concert
- Years 3 and 4 PGL trip
- Class assemblies
- The new format for Sports Days
- Good quality teaching and feedback
- Inclusion
- Mini Vinnies
- Roots of Empathy sessions
- Headteacher awards
- Maths and English workshops
- Homework being in books rather than sheets
- After School Clubs
- Text messages home as reminders
- PTA events
- Music lessons – great opportunities
- Teaching of sign language/makaton in Reception
- Scooter training for Year 2
- Wonderful trips – beach, Southwark Cathedral
- Nursery parent meetings

- The chicks!
- Other faiths week
- Morning prayers
- Lego group
- Cinema evening
- Pleasant staff, very welcoming
- Reading shack

What could be improved:

- More homework for KS2, especially maths
- Children not paying to get into International Evening
- More support staff in the Nursery
- Written reports termly for children who are learning a musical instrument
- Instrument lessons not to be during lesson time
- More netball tournaments
- Breakfast and after school club at the school
- End of year reports to go home earlier
- Both sides of the School to be opened when there is an event
- Teacher's general appearance – no flip flops!
- Angelus at 12 noon
- If there were no iPads in classrooms
- If there was no computer in the nursery

As a result of your comments I intend to:

Send home end of year reports earlier this academic year and therefore give you greater time to discuss them with class teachers and myself.

Have both entrances to the School open for events which parents are invited to during the year. Everyone will need to come into the School via the main entrance to ensure the School is secure but, if the side gate is open, those entering via Sangley Road will be able to come through to the main entrance.

Talk to the PTA about children paying to enter International Evening. This is a social occasion but also a fund raiser for the School and we will need to look at profits to decide if we could afford to run the event without charging the children.

I will look into the possibility of having a breakfast/after school club run on site after questioning how much demand there is for such an addition to the School.

Netball tournaments, along with all our sporting experiences, are very popular and it is great to see the children taking part so enthusiastically and successfully. We do sign up to every opportunity we are offered but will keep an eye out for more netball, the girls loved it so much last year.

Regarding the timing of instrument lessons we have regularly asked for after school slots but are only able to offer the timings allocated to us by Lewisham Music Service. If we used another provider the cost would be far higher. We would also need to consult the service about additional written reports but I am happy to do this.

Homework! Every term this is recorded in the 'What is going well' and 'What could be improved' section of the questionnaire, there are some very strong views on either side out there! I spoke to teachers at our inset day yesterday about giving homework in maths, English and a range of subjects.

I also thought it would be nice to hear some of the 'Other comments' from the questionnaires

"I have nothing but awe for the teachers and support staff at Holy Cross, you have made my little boy's year wonderful"

"Thank you to each and every person at Holy Cross for welcoming us into the family"

"As always, thank you to all at Holy Cross, you are a fantastic team!"

We are all looking forward to a fantastic year ahead and are grateful for your on going support and enthusiasm.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Mary Collins

Headteacher



