**Parental Voice**

**Castle Hill Parents Evening – 20th & 21st March 2019**

1. **What do you like about Castle Hill?**

(*We had 55 responses to this question*)

* Great support on offer for pupils and their families
* Helping parents with their everyday routines
* Friendly, supportive, approachable, understanding and helpful Staff
* Inclusion of all pupils
* Children being well supported with their school work
* The Headteacher is on the ball and always happy to help if any problems
* Happy children; wanting to come to school
* Quality Teaching
* Concerns are always listened to and dealt with
* Always kept up to date with information
* Children feel at ease making new friends
* Great amenities and resources for children during lessons and at play times
* Wrap around care and support
* Children learning sign language
* Absolutely everything about the school
* How it really is a Community School serving the community
* Teachers have good relationships with pupils
* Pupils make excellent progress
* The school feels very welcoming
* How the children are the most important thing
* The school is good at supporting children with ASD
* Flexible afterschool clubs
* Staff always available to speak to and give advice to Parents
* Well led by a great Headteacher
* Amazing staff
* The school is always open and honest and deals with issues fairly
* Very good school, great support and feedback
* Brilliant staff!!
* Great school!
* Staff are always on hand if needed
* Website information excellent; especially the information about the SEN provision
* A very honest school
* Locality of school
* Transparency; clear boundaries for all children
* Great organisation on the playground at drop off/collection times
* Any problems are swiftly dealt with
* Behaviour policy; everything is always addressed
* Great learning environment
* Full school!!! Have another child for Year 5 on waiting list; cant’ wait to get them in Castle Hill
* Full of activities for the children

1. **What do we do that could better?**

(*We had 47 responses to this question*

* More information on pupil progress
* More frequent progress reports
* Opportunities to chat about pupil’s development
* More school trips
* I don’t think there is anything the school could do to be any better
* More notice of school events; especially for working parents
* Sports day
* Getting Parents more involved in their children’s education
* Nothing!
* Improve the website; needs to be more mobile friendly
* More communication between Teachers/School and Parents
* Acknowledgement when a child’s homework is done
* Timing of home time (often 3.15pm)
* Happy with everything!
* Too much bullying; Parents should be called in and accounted for!
* Offer Football Club for Years 1 & 2
* Day to day home school communication
* Bigger after school clubs
* Opportunities for Parent s to come in and look at pupils work other than just Parents evenings
* More variety of after school clubs
* Making sure detentions are given out with valid reasons

1. **What extra things could we do at Castle Hill?**

(*We had 42 responses to this question*)

* More swimming; opportunities for other years to participate not just year 4
* More sports events
* Better sports facilities
* Sleepovers at school
* More choice of clubs
* P.E
* More school plays and concerts
* More school trips
* Nothing; everything is great
* More clubs for girls
* More spaces for Homework club
* Girls football club
* Regular updates on the school website
* Opportunities for more FUN days; i.e dress up, PTFA/funding raising events
* Lego for every class/ Lego club
* Wider variety of school games
* After school clubs for Reception children
* Earlier dyslexia testing
* Gymnastic club
* Better charity activities
* More opportunities for less able pupils to do Art
* Open day for Parents; so, they understand the way some subjects are taught
* Self-defence classes (Happy to pay for)
* More ART
* Dodgeball club
* Computer/coding club
* More TAG days
* More 1 to 1 help
* After school/daytime groups that include babies/younger pre-school age siblings
* Family fun days during half term



**Parents Evening Questionnaire Response**

Dear Parents/Carers,

During the last Parents’ Evening, members of the Governing Body asked you to take part in a very short survey about the school. Your responses were extremely positive and we were very grateful for all the supportive and appreciative comments you made about the school.

We have looked at your suggestions for improvement to see if we are able to act upon them. I was encouraged to see that this was quite a small list but also that many of you felt that the school already addresses these issues.

I have responded to the main issues that were raised in the list below. As always I am happy to discuss any of them in more detail with you. If you feel strongly that we are still not addressing your concerns then PLEASE get in touch.

1. **More information on the children’s progress**

Currently we hold two parents’ evenings per year, parents receive three Assertive Mentoring reports and there is a full report at the end of the year.

1. **More school trips**

Every class has a trip or an additional activity in school three times a year. We have also introduced the ’road trips’ to the place that their class is named after - free of charge. All trips are subsidised by the school, even more trips would raise the cost of the existing ones.

1. **Improve the website to make it more mobile friendly**

You should have noticed that this has really improved over recent weeks. It is not yet perfect and we are still working on it.

1. **Acknowledgement when a child’s homework is done**

We love the homework that you do at home! The whole purpose of our homework is for you to share different activities with your children and for you to understand a little more what they are learning about in class. All homework should be acknowledged and recorded in their topic books. Children are also encouraged to show their homework to the Headteacher.

1. **Bullying in the school**

We have a zero tolerance of bullying and any reported incidents are dealt with immediately. We work hard with the children to identify bullying and how to deal with it. I also write to parents on a regular basis asking them to report any concerns that they have to me – we cannot deal with bullying unless we know it is happening.

1. **More After School Clubs**

We run as many after school clubs as we can without charging. Many of them are extremely popular and some children do not always get their first choice. However, we try to make sure that everyone gets an opportunity over the course of the year. Last term we ran 15 different clubs each week that were attended by 264 children.

1. **Making sure detentions are given out with a valid reason**

Detentions are not given out for one single reason. If your child receives a detention he/she will have been given at least two warnings before this happens. You will receive a letter in the post if they have had a detention and the reason for it is explained. There is also a section for your child to fill in to reflect on how they could have acted differently. If you receive a letter you are welcome to come in and discuss it at any time.

1. **Regular updates on the school website**

The school website is regularly updated and should be an important source of information. Please let me know if there is any outdated information on it.

1. **Wider variety of school games**

We are in the process of reorganising the playground over the lunchtime period. We are trying to give the children more opportunities to try different activities and games. The playground will be ‘zoned’ and the children can choose different activities that will be led by an adult.

1. **Better charity activities**

As a school we support the big charity events (Children in Need, Comic Relief etc) and we are always open to new ideas, particularly supporting local or personal causes. In the past we have supported a number of projects suggested by parents and children, we welcome any suggestions that you may have.

Thank you for your continued support.

Pete Talbot

Head Teacher