



St Patrick's Catholic Primary School, Dipton

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We follow in Christ's footsteps

17th February 2023

Feedback from Newsletter Survey

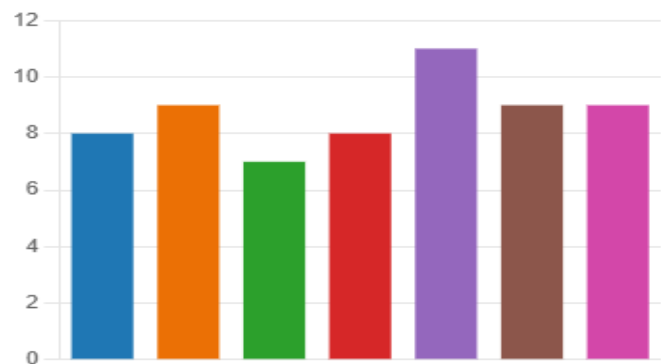
Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you so much to those who were able to complete our newsletter survey at the end of last term. We would like to share some of the fantastic feedback and ideas that we received, and inform you of some of the changes that you will see in our newsletters going forward.

We would like to extend our thanks to Mrs Smith for collecting the survey and collating all the information. Thank you! What a great exercise.

The range of responses was as follows:

| | |
|-------------|----|
| ● Reception | 8 |
| ● Year 1 | 9 |
| ● Year 2 | 7 |
| ● Year 3 | 8 |
| ● Year 4 | 11 |
| ● Year 5 | 9 |
| ● Year 6 | 9 |



Thank you to all those who responded, it is lovely to see parents/carers from all year groups taking part.

When asked, 'How often do you read the school newsletter?' We received the following responses:

| | |
|----------------|----|
| ● Every week | 38 |
| ● Most weeks | 9 |
| ● Occasionally | 1 |
| ● Not at all | 0 |



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It is clear to see that our parents and carers enjoy reading our newsletter on a weekly basis. With this in mind, we will continue to publish it weekly going forward.

When asked, 'What do you think of the current length of the newsletter?' We received the following responses:

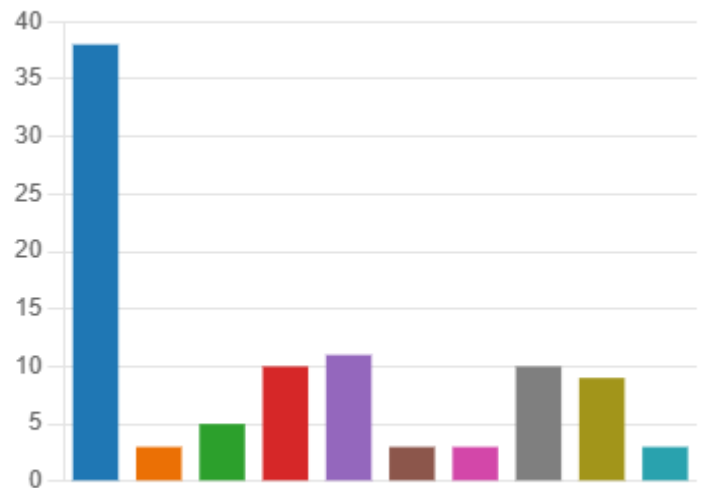
| | |
|--------------------------|----|
| ● It is too long | 6 |
| ● It is the right length | 35 |
| ● It is too short | 0 |
| ● I have no opinion | 7 |



The majority of our parents and carers said that they felt the newsletter was the right length. We appreciate your feedback on this, and we take on board that some may feel it is too long. As time goes on, the newsletter will vary in length and content, as some have asked for further information to be added. We will inform you when this content is to be included.

When asked, 'Which articles do you read?' We received the following responses:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----|
| ● I read all articles | 38 |
| ● Headteacher's welcome page | 3 |
| ● General news | 5 |
| ● Reminders | 10 |
| ● Events within school this week | 11 |
| ● Attendance figures | 3 |
| ● Reading support and figures | 3 |
| ● Weekly awards | 10 |
| ● Summary of upcoming events | 9 |
| ● Parent/carer local events inform... | 3 |



It is fantastic to see that our parents and carers are enjoying all of the articles that we include in our newsletter. Taking this feedback into account, we will continue to include all current content going forward.

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When asked, 'Do you find the weekly reminders page to be better than text reminders for upcoming events? We received the following responses:

| | |
|----------------------|----|
| ● Yes | 16 |
| ● No | 3 |
| ● I find both useful | 29 |



It looks as though most of our parents and carers find both text reminders and our newsletter reminders page useful. With this in mind, we will continue to send out messages regarding upcoming events, for example, reminders for trips. We have also added our upcoming school events to our calendar and Weduc notice boards.

When asked, 'This week's newsletter was created using a new format, this was suggested by a parent, and it looks to be easier to view on a mobile phone device. Do you find the new format easier to view on your device?'. We received the following responses:

| | |
|-------|----|
| ● Yes | 44 |
| ● No | 4 |



Thank you to the parent that got in touch to suggest a different format for the newsletter. We really appreciate you taking the time to get in touch with the idea. It looks as though it has made it much easier for parents and carers to view the newsletter on their mobile devices. This format will remain in place for the foreseeable future.

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When asked, 'Are there any specific types of articles you would like to see in our newsletter, or suggestions for the future? We received the following feedback:

- **Parent/carer suggested – 'Wellbeing family activity'.**

Here at St. Patrick's, we offer our pupils a wide range of wellbeing activities which help to; promote self-confidence, build resilience, and boost self-esteem. We think it is a fantastic idea to share some of these activities with you. Moving forward, our newsletter will now include a 'Wellbeing' page.

This page will include a range of activities such as mindfulness colouring, positive affirmations, self-care ideas, baking recipes, and much more. We will update content once a month to allow families enough time to enjoy all activities. We hope you will enjoy these with your children at home.

- **Parent/carer suggested – 'Maybe a section looking at what the children will be covering in the week ahead, just brief topic or theme.'**

Our pupils cover a wide variety of subjects and topics each week in class. We feel that covering this each week in our newsletter will cause it to become too lengthy. If you would like to view the curriculum areas each class will cover each term, please click [here](#) to view the 'Curriculum overviews' section on our website.

- **Parent/carer suggested – 'I would quite like to see interviews with staff.'**

What a brilliant idea! We feel as though this will allow parents and carers to get to know our staff members more personally, whilst giving our student editorial team the opportunity to hone in on their interviewing skills. With these things in mind, we will now include a staff interview in our newsletter once a month. It will be published in the first newsletter of each month. We hope that you will enjoy learning more about our hard working and talented staff members.

- **Parent/carer suggested – 'What each year group has been doing the previous week.'**

This is a great idea, however covering every year group's activities each week on our newsletter, would cause it to become quite lengthy. With this in mind, we will endeavour to provide more class activity posts on our Weduc and Facebook feeds. This will allow parents and carers to see what their children have been doing in school, without making the newsletter too bulky. We know pupils are not always 'keen' to share what they have been doing in school – but we would always encourage you to chat with your child to explore that they have been covering in class.

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- **Parent/carer suggested – ‘Perhaps be more transparent and open within newsletters and share any issues you are seeing trends in and how these are being tackled.’**

We aim to be as transparent as possible and provide feedback on any issues or trends that present themselves within our school. We will bring any concerns to your attention via email and through our newsletter. We ask that you please alert us to any concerns that you may have so that we may address them in school, and/or share them with the rest of our school family. One area of concern that many parents have in this day and age is online safety. Many children now have access to the internet at a young age and they may be engaging in online gaming and social media platforms. With this in mind, we will reintroduce our 'Online Safety' page. We will use this to share regular guidance and updates, regarding the possible dangers of social media platforms, online gaming, and dangerous online trends.

- **Parent/carer suggested – ‘More info about the parish and make better connections with them. Information about St Patricks Brownie group.’**

Thank you for your great ideas. As you may have seen in our more recent newsletters, we have shared parish mass times and locations, as well as information regarding the children’s liturgies that take place at St. Patrick’s Church on the last Sunday of every month. We will continue to include this information on a regular basis, as well as any upcoming events that are to take place in our parish. In addition, we will now also include a link on our ‘General News’ page for the weekly parish newsletter. This covers news and events within St. Patrick’s, St. Joseph’s, and Sacred Heart parishes.

We have spoken with the leader of St. Patrick’s 2nd Dipton Brownies Group, and we have offered our newsletter as a way of promoting their group and fundraising events. We will share any information that they wish for us to promote. The group currently runs every Friday 4pm-5.30pm, during term-time at Dipton Jubilee Centre. Please call the school office if you are interested in your daughter joining the group. The age range for this group is 7-10 years.

Thank you for all your great ideas, we hope that you find the above changes beneficial and that they will further improve communications within our school and parish community.

When asked, ‘Do you have any other feedback / suggestions for future newsletters? We received the following responses:

‘I like the newsletter for reminding me of what’s coming up for the children and general important information.’

‘I have found it really helpful and a great little reminder for activities/events and reminders for the week ahead!’

‘I find it so useful to refer to about events and dates coming up. Although I really enjoy seeing

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what the children are up to, I mainly look at the reminders and dates.'

'I really enjoy the newsletter. It makes me feel informed and included as a parent, and it's a really handy source to click on for quick access/reminders of events coming up for the next couple of weeks. I love reading the list of children who have received that week's awards and the reasons why.'

'I think the weekly newsletter is fantastic. It's set out really well and the reminders page is so useful for keeping track of any upcoming events.'

'I like the newsletter for reminding me of what's coming up for the children and general important information.'

When asked, 'Do you believe that the school newsletter is a valuable source of news and information?' we received the following responses:

| | |
|---------------------|----|
| ● Strongly agree | 28 |
| ● Agree | 19 |
| ● Disagree | 1 |
| ● Strongly disagree | 0 |



Thank you for all your positive responses, it is great to see that our parents and carers are finding our newsletter to be beneficial. We published our first weekly newsletter back in October as a trial, this response shows us that many find it to be very valuable source of information. This being said, we will continue to publish our newsletter weekly, and we endeavour to include the extra content that parent and carers have requested.

Thank you again for your positive and constructive comments.

Kind regards,

Mrs Smith

Mrs Burgess

Mrs Gardner

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