



Parent Questionnaire – October 2022

Many thanks for your responses! We have recorded the numbers of ticks in the boxes below and added some of your positive comments and ideas for the future. Please be assured that this summary document will be shared with the staff and governors and will form part of our school development and improvement discussions.

We really do welcome your feedback!

Question	1 Highly Satisfied	2 Good	3 Satisfied	4 Needs Improvem ent	N/A	DON'T KNOW
My child is happy at school.	35	6	1			
I believe my child is making good progress.	29	12	1			
School is a friendly and welcoming place.	40	2				
Children's behaviour is good.	32	9				1
I believe my child is taught well.	38	4				
Staff are friendly, approachable and helpful.	36	5				
The school is well led and managed.	38	5				
School provides appropriate homework.	24	14	2	1		
School provides effective wellbeing support for children and families	30	6			1	5
The school takes good care of my child.	38	4				
The school provides good sports provision (competitions/extracurricular/PE)	37	4	1			
The school keeps me well informed (through the Shuttle, Dojo, letters, meetings, phone calls and texting/emailing service)	33	8		1		
I would recommend the school to others.	YES (100%)		NO		NOT SURE	

What has been the highlight of the year so far?

What do you think we do well?

This is what you had to say:

The curriculum is presented in an exciting way and the children seem to cover a lot of subjects and the days such as the circus day etc underpin their learning.

Knowing my children are happy coming to school.

Nice to have a headteacher who is visible and knows all children and parents.

The progress my children have made so far and the friendliness of the teachers and staff and how much you care about the children.

How you recognize children's achievements, hard work and efforts.

The regular SEND meetings, engaging topics in class and the Story Suitcase.

The opportunities for parents to engage with school and ensuring my child is safe, happy and well looked after.

After school clubs have been fab and the circus day was great.

New opportunities for learning like the circus day.

It's been great to see how well my child has settled into reception. He loves going to school and talks positively about his day – especially his teachers! My other child continues to enjoy his time at Thurlstone. Thank you for creating a wonderful learning environment for our children!

My children have shown massive improvement in her work and her confidence. She loves being involved in the library. She is very happy coming to school.

The school is amazing and I can't thank everyone enough for their hard work.

How well the kids have settled with their teachers.

All the activities are fun and learning without the children knowing.

We don't see children cry which must mean they are happy. We love what, and how you teach our child.

You all do a fab job! Thank you for all you do.

I thought you handled the death of the Queen incredibly well with the children. Sensitive yet informative.

You provide lots of different experiences.

The mixture of events through the year is done well.

A friendly, caring, happy school with a lovely community feel.

The balance of fun and learning is right.

Seeing our YR child learning his letters and phonics.

The holistic approach to the children's education.

Every day is a highlight! The children love school and always have something new to tell us.

A huge, massive, enormous thanks to the whole staff for everything you do for the children and for creating such a fabulous learning environment.

We always love the Christmas activities we have.

Receiving a headteachers award was a great start. Dojo updates are brilliant. Such a friendly school! Our child has settled in so well so far.

Looking forward to parents evening to have a proper catch up.

The trips are well planned and as a parent I feel safe handing my child over.

The after-school clubs are good with plenty to choose from which allows them to try new things.

My child comes home from school happy so the days must be well planned with a good mixture of work and play.

My child is so happy at school and has learnt so much already.

We get lots of notice about events.

Loved the traditions of Harvest Crumble and discos.

Staff are always available to speak with.

The Harvest performance and the school provides a safe place for the children to learn.

My child is really happy at school and we are kept well informed about her learning. Fantastic opportunities and activities for children and parents/community to be involved with which is lovely.

Clear breadth of the curriculum which engages my child in his learning. He enjoys all subjects.

We like the range of activities our child can take part in such as P4Sport and competitions.

It's such an inclusive school. We always feel welcome in the playground and there is such a lovely atmosphere.

Do you have any ideas for the future?

Here are some of your suggestions (and a response from us in italics):

- **Swimming** – the children go swimming in Y5 or Y6
- **Singing lessons** – this is part of the music curriculum – we use a scheme called Charanga – it’s fantastic. We also sing in assembly and the Y5 go to Young Voices every year.
- **School to provide an affordable breakfast club like they do in places like the Dearne** – we are unable to provide breakfast club as we do not receive the funding required to employ staff to run it.
- **Do more to support working families and hold events at times that mean we don’t miss out** - we try to hold events at various times to suit as many people as possible – including during the school day, after school and early evening (even though this is outside our staff’s working hours)
- **School money – both parents can’t access this** – we’re sorry about this. Our subscription to the service only allows us to register a child’s ‘priority one’ parent. To change this would mean we would have to double our already pricey subscription cost.
- **Text system regarding behaviour does not specify which child** – we will ensure it does from now on.
- **To continue to offer incentives for good behaviour** – yep we will continue to do this.
- **A search tool on Class Dojo** – we agree! I have emailed them and they will add this to their list of things to consider.
- **Ensure parents are well informed about targets and expectations** – this is all discussed in Parent Consultation Meeting, with more details provided in the mid-year meeting.
- **Talk more about mental health** – mental health and wellbeing is at the heart of Thurlstone for both children and the staff. We have a pupil wellbeing group and wellbeing is embedded in our PHSE curriculum. Mental health and wellbeing ideas/messages/support are shared regularly on Dojo and in the Shuttle.
- **How about doing an international food auction** – we can certainly look into this.
- **Some Christmas events for the children** – yes we have lots planned – please see the Shuttle.
- **Too much communication. It can be overwhelming.** – we will look at how we can streamline what we do.
- **A mixed sports team to compete with other schools** – we have plans in the making for this very thing! Watch this space!
- **We’re looking forward to more events that parents can attend** – we have lots of things planned for the run up to Christmas so keep an eye on The Shuttle.
- **It would be useful to know what the children are learning so we can read books etc** – Each time a new topic is started in every class, the teacher shares the associated ‘Knowledge Organiser’ on Dojo. This provides details of the knowledge, vocabulary and skills that we aim to cover in each topic. Reception get a ‘Did you know’ document.
- **P4Sport events are fab but they sometimes clash with other events or come at short notice. Could they be scheduled in school time?** – We will do better at giving you more notice. We do some of the events in school time for this reason, but we’re unable to do others in school time on a regular basis.
- **KS1 cricket and football sessions** – we currently run football clubs after school. Cricket will take place in the summer months.
- **More experiences like trips and events, we’re keen to get life back to normal after Covid** – we plan trips for each class at the end of the school year and other experiences throughout the school year. These complement the curriculum and provide fun, enjoyment and excitement for the children.
- **More parents should help fundraise and contribute more** – we have a supportive PTA which is growing all the time.
- **More details about events for families who are new to school** – absolutely. This will be done.
- **A suggestion box to enable anonymous suggestions** – we will consider this. The questionnaire can be submitted anonymously though.
- **Not enough homework** – we are in the process of reviewing our homework policy. More information to follow.
- **More practical life skills and creative activities in lessons** – life skills are at the heart of our PHSE curriculum as detailed in the 1Decision documents on the school website. Every year our Y6 children attend Crucial Crew hosted by South Yorkshire Police – this day out of school supports the PHSE curriculum and is entirely focused on life skills. Teachers use many creative approaches in lessons.
- **Cooking, baking, finance, health, careers, environmental, making things after school clubs** – we work hard to provide a range of after school clubs which are led by available providers and staff when they volunteer their unpaid time. We do not have the capacity to provide this range of after school clubs.
- **Provide a range of planned activities in playtime which are supervised and encourage fair play** – playtimes are supervised effectively by staff. Sport activities at playtime are supervised and fair play is always encouraged – staff are trained to use restorative conversations to support any issues which may arise.
- **Dojo is great but hard to navigate sometimes. Could we have a central place for documents?** – We agree that Dojo can be tricky to navigate and have emailed to ask if they can introduce a search facility. We are keeping our fingers crossed they can do something. We will put The Shuttle on the website from now on.
- **More baking fundraisers please** – we will plan some in.

So, lots to think about! As always, there are ideas we can look into, and others that may not be viable at this time. We really do make every effort to ensure you are all happy, but know that this is not always possible.

Looking at your ‘ticked’ responses, we will be looking at our approach to homework. Although most of you are highly satisfied with homework at Thurlstone, we acknowledge that there may be some improvements to make. Once again, we will do our best to tick all your boxes!

Once again, a huge thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts and views with us!

Mrs Gibbins

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