



Oxfordshire County Council

HAILEY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Hailey, Witney, Oxon, OX29 9UB

Hailey School Governing Body Newsletter

July 2018

Introduction

Welcome to this term's Hailey School Governors' newsletter. In this edition we will be covering the recent SATS results and how well our school is performing against the national benchmarks as well as the results of our parent and pupil surveys.

SATS Results

We are delighted to report that Hailey School has achieved another excellent set of results, thanks to the hard work of our children and staff. Once again, we exceeded national benchmarks in almost all areas in Foundation Stage, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2.

Year 6 Pupils (KS2)

- The combined score for reading, writing and maths was **77%** compared to 64% nationally for the expected level of attainment
- Reading scores were **85%** compared to 72% nationally for expected
- Maths scores were **92%** compared to 75% nationally for expected
- Both SPAG (spelling, punctuation & grammar) & writing were in line with or slightly above national benchmarks for expected

Year 2 Pupils (KS1)

- Reading scores were **85%** compared to 75% nationally for the expected level of attainment
- Maths scores were **78%** compared to 76% nationally for expected
- Writing scores were **78%** compared to 69% nationally for expected

Our foundation stage pupils also exceeded the expected national benchmarks with **87%** achieving the general levels of development compared to 71% nationally last year, (2018 figure not yet available) and Year 1 phonics scores were in line with national data.

The governing body would like to congratulate the staff and the children on these results which demanded a lot of hard work. The curriculum has become more challenging and to achieve these levels of performance is no mean feat. Staff and children have come in early and stayed late to attend extra classes designed to boost maths and literacy skills and it is these kinds of interventions that really make the difference and enable children to achieve their very best. Thanks to those parents who have been supportive of these extra classes and ensured their children were able to take part: the results speak for themselves.

Progress scores for children in all classes have also been good, with most year groups exceeding targets for all subjects. One area for development in both key stages is working in greater depth: i.e. the amount of pupils who are achieving above the expected level of performance. The leadership team and school staff have already developed plans to ensure that pupils who are capable of reaching the higher standard are supported with additional activities specifically targeted at boosting skills further so we can match or exceed national benchmarks.

Parent Survey Results

A huge thank you to those parents who filled in the parent survey. This was the first time we did the survey online and we got one of our best response rates: almost half the families in the school. Hailey School has performed extremely well with most answers meeting the description of "outstanding" as defined by the National Governors Association (80% or above). We are delighted that we scored above 90% in all five of the questions ranked as most important by our families: happiness, progress, safety, lack of bullying and good behaviour. We are also pleased to see that 100% of nursery parents felt the school helped their child settle in quickly, and that 95% of all parents would recommend the school to another parent.

These are an outstanding set of results from a statistically significant base and the governors want to acknowledge the hard work and commitment of our school community: the staff and leadership team should be justifiably proud.

Top 5 questions of importance, ranked by parents and carers (school survey)*:

Happiness

My child is happy at this school: 95% strongly agree or agree

Progress

My child makes good progress at this school: 94% strongly agree or agree

Safety

My child feels safe at this school: 98% strongly agree or agree

Lack of bullying

My child is not bullied or harassed at this school: 95% strongly agree or agree

Good behaviour

The school makes sure the children are well behaved: 90% strongly agree or agree

**A slightly shorter survey was sent to nursery parents so the percentages above & below show the combined response for both surveys where the same questions were asked.*

As happens each year, the survey results are being discussed with staff and governors. We are always looking for opportunities for further school improvement, so we will be focusing on feedback we received on a few themes that emerged in some of the parents' comments.

Strengths

Some wonderful comments were made about the school's community spirit, the friendly, happy, family-like atmosphere and the reassuring balance of teaching and nurturing which upheld the school's values of love and tolerance. Parents thought that pupils across year groups were very caring towards one another. In addition there were many comments made about the dedicated staff, who are considered very approachable with supportive, proactive attitudes.

"Small school with a genuinely caring, lovely bunch of teachers. Hailey certainly lives up to its 'small school with a big heart.'"

"The school have been very supportive when we have reported an issue, acting very quickly on feedback, presenting clear next steps."

"An approachable, fair and decisive head teacher who has vision."

"The school definitely has a feel to it that each pupil is taught to respect one another. Well led school and this is definitely noticeable in the teaching staff group."

Areas for discussion

It should be noted that almost all answers were above 80%: i.e. the responses were still outstanding, but we noted a few themes coming out of the comments at the end.

Information about children's progress.

Some parents indicated they wanted more information so they can help their child, some wanted less. The staff are discussing whether a consistent format across year groups might strengthen the information provided in homework, reports & parent/teacher meetings about where each child is at, where they need to get to and how parents can help. This will be communicated next term.

Support with reading and homework

We asked for specific feedback about how the school could better support parents with homework and reading. Some parents felt they would like a better understanding of how the curriculum works in literacy and maths. The school plans to run workshops for each class next year to help parents understand current teaching strategies and to show how regular reading underpins literacy skills that are essential to help each child reach their potential.

Sports participation/diversity

There were a few comments about wanting more sports although the majority (80%) of parents were happy with what is provided. This is supported by the pupil surveys which show a strong satisfaction with the amount of sports on offer across year groups and how enjoyable they are. The school has a sports coach three days a week and children engage in a range of sports throughout the day although the school does not currently report back to parents all the details of lunchtime activities and class and school competitions. Staff and governors are considering how to share more information about the sporting events that take place to demonstrate the range of sports on offer.

Pupil Surveys

For the first time this year we conducted a year 6 survey with questions targeted at feedback about each child's entire experience of the school, not just year 6. Years 3-5

completed the normal pupil survey and Infants/foundation class did a shorter version of that. It was extremely pleasing to see, once again, such a positive response from all classes.

100% of year 6's said they had enjoyed their time at Hailey School, that if ever there was a problem, they knew there was an adult they could talk to, that they'd enjoyed lots of different sporting activities and had been encouraged to respect other children, even if they were different to themselves. Importantly, they all said that they felt prepared to go on to secondary school.

Years 3-5 also all enjoyed being at school and taking part in lots of different sports and 100% said they enjoyed One World Week, Science Week and having assemblies outside. It was pleasing to see that 95% said that even when their work is difficult they don't give up and they try their best. 94% said they thought this was a good school.

Infants and Foundation showed a similar pattern with all children saying they enjoyed school and that their lessons were interesting and they enjoyed lots of different sporting activities as well as One World Week and Science Week. 100% thought it was a good school and they knew if they were worried there was a grown-up they could talk to.

Staff changes

The governing body want to say a fond farewell to Mrs Droy, who is leaving for a position at her local school. We thank her for her excellent work with the Upper Juniors this year, and for the year 6 SATS results, and we wish her well. We are very pleased to welcome our new Lower Juniors Teacher, Mrs Clark, who will be bringing her considerable teaching experience to Hailey School. I am sure you will all give her a warm welcome.

We would also like to say a thank you and farewell to Mr Best in the school office. Mr Best is retiring after many years of service to the school and we wish him well.

Changes to Governing Body Membership

We are pleased to welcome Rob Mann to the governing body as a foundation governor who will be working on our SMSC committee (spiritual, moral, social & cultural development).

Hailey School Governing Body

Co-opted

Sam Amy
Tony Hubbard
Jane Carr
Eve Smith
Graham Simpson
vacant

Foundation

Glynys Weller
Position filled

Staff

Sharon Jenkins

County

Torica Back

Head Teacher

Debbie Davies

Parent

Judie Miskimmin-Jones

Associate Members

Rev Ness Whiffin
Anne-Marie Fisher

Clerk

Liz Jarrett

Steve Alman (Chair)

Matthew Anderson

Sorcha Dyer

We hope you found this newsletter informative. Any comments on how it could be improved would be gratefully received; please email office.3123@hailey.oxon.sch.uk fao Eve Smith.