



Heron's Dale Primary School

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**THANK  
YOU!**

Dear Parents/Carers,

An enormous thank you for all of the responses which we had to the questionnaire sent out at the start of the year. A huge number of parents responded (the most yet) and we are extremely grateful as this really helps us to make informed decisions about what happens at school and about how we move forward and make improvements.

I wanted to share with you some of the highlights from the questionnaire responses and also to let you know about some of the actions which have taken place throughout the year as a result of the views that have been shared with us. I've also provided some information about things for next year too.

Please note that the percentages included in the summary, represent the views of the parents who responded to the questionnaire and we understand that this is an indication of the views of all and that some parents will feel differently. Quotations appear in italics.

As always, we are extremely keen to work closely with you all, to ensure that our school continues to go from strength to strength and that provision for each and every pupil is as effective and stimulating as it can be to ensure progress and enjoyment for all.

Our questionnaire is now sent annually, some questions are covered each year and some aspects of the questionnaire change according to areas of focus within the School Development Plan. You can expect to receive this again in September, however, please do not wait for this to arrive; if ever you have any thoughts or ideas, please contact us at any time. Additionally, if ever you would like to give feedback to the school, either positive or constructive then we would be glad to receive it.

Thank you for your continued support and hope you find the summary interesting,

Yours sincerely,

Isabel Robson  
Headteacher

### PART 1 – HAPPY AND SAFE

What you have said:	The impact of your views and other actions:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>100% agree that their child is happy and safe at school, that bullying is taken seriously and that we encourage good attendance</li> <li><i>Happiness and safety is our top concern and we feel * is well cared for, extremely happy, and safe.</i></li> <li><i>My son could not be happier at school.</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We received our Sun Safety Accreditation in June 18</li> <li>Road Safety Day in June 18</li> <li>E-safety information continues to be shared in our monthly Newsletters</li> </ul>

### PART 2 – LEARNING AND TEACHING

What you have said:	The impact of your views and other actions:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>100% agree that their child makes good progress at Herons Dale</li> <li>100% agree that we celebrate pupil's successes and achievements</li> <li>100% agree that Herons Dale meets all communication needs</li> <li><i>I would like more specific information sent home about writing and reading e.g. if my child has done something new that day.</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased use of the Marvellous Me App to share specific information, successes and achievements</li> <li>Strategy Section continues in the monthly newsletter to share information on strategies used in school</li> <li>Parents welcome to ask for additional information at any time</li> <li>Signing and Communication Drop Ins held for Drivers and Escorts to ensure we are supporting communication for every part of our pupil's day</li> </ul>

### PART 3 – COMMUNICATION WITH YOU

What you have said:	The impact of your views and other actions:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>100% agree that they feel welcome at the school</li> <li>97% feel that communication from school is good</li> <li>97% feel that the home school diary provides good communication between home and school</li> <li><i>You feel very important to the school</i></li> <li><i>I feel free to write and question in the H/S Book and know it will be answered asap</i></li> <li><i>Not enough communication from the class teacher</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased use of the Marvellous Me App to share specific information, successes and achievements</li> <li>New Website very nearly ready to be launched in September! We are very excited!</li> <li>Continued work on the Newsletter to ensure it is as informative as possible both about happenings at school and events that may be of interest</li> </ul>

### PART 4 – BEING HEALTHY

What you have said:	The impact of your views and other actions:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>100% agree that the school promotes independence, life skills, self-confidence and self esteem</li> <li>100% agree that the school promotes good behaviour</li> <li>100% agree that we help keep pupils healthy through physical activity and sport</li> <li>100% agree that Herons Dale promotes good behaviour and meets all of the children's emotional/behaviour needs and gives support with this at home</li> <li><i>I feel it is a shame the pool has only been in use so little</i></li> <li><i>*'s independence and life skills continuing to gain momentum</i></li> <li><i>We were blown away with the toileting</i></li> <li><i>I would like to know if my child has actually tried their taster plate</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Behaviour clinics to support parents have been held regularly</li> <li>Established 'in-house' Play Therapy sessions with trained member of staff</li> <li>Increased number of Educational Visits</li> <li>Increased focus on Taster Plates in school – next steps are to ensure you are receiving feedback about these regularly!</li> <li>Brand new PSHCE Curriculum written this year with a focus on the development of Life Skills</li> <li>New PLP format, focusing on developing of skills</li> <li>Additional Lifeguard time invested in and building work on the pool completed ensuring the pool has remained operational for almost all of the year</li> <li>We now hire the pool to swimming companies to ensure that it is generating income which pays for its upkeep, meaning that is sustainable in these times of difficult funding</li> </ul>



**PART 5 – LEADERSHIP AT HERONS DALE**

What you have said:	The impact of your views and other actions:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 100% agree that Herons Dale is well led and managed</li> <li>• 100% agree that we respond well to any concerns which are raised</li> <li>• 85% agree that they know who the Management Committee are and what their role is</li> <li>• <i>Herons Dale is the amazing school that it is thanks to the tireless dedication of all the staff</i></li> <li>• <i>I don't know much about the Management Committee</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leadership Team have a presence at the front of the school in the morning, as often as they are able to</li> <li>• Management Committee section in the monthly Newsletter introducing all of the Management Committee Members, the role of the Management Committee and what they have been doing</li> <li>• Increased presence of Management Committee Members at events – Herons Dale's Got Talent, Tours, Summer Fayre, Meeting with new parents</li> </ul>

**PART 6 – SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT**

What you have said:	The impact of your views and other actions:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Very mixed responses about whether or not homework or home reading was desired</li> <li>• 100% agreed that their child's feelings and emotions are valued at Herons Dale</li> <li>• 97% agreed that their child's voice is listened to and that the children's opinion matters</li> <li>• <i>More evidence of good work sent home</i></li> <li>• <i>More feedback on what pupils have been doing</i></li> <li>• <i>It would be good to be able to carry on with his signing at home</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Next year parents and teachers will liaise to decide whether homework/home reading will feature for individual pupils – as with all our provision, this will be entirely bespoke</li> <li>• Pupil Voice is now a feature in every Newsletter</li> <li>• School Council have been more involved than ever in decision making – including naming our Forest School area and choosing equipment for it</li> <li>• Each class now holds a weekly meeting, gathering the pupil's views on what is going well, what is going less well and what needs to happen – the information from these meetings comes straight to the Leadership Team</li> <li>• We held an external validation day to baseline how we feel Pupil Voice is at Herons Dale – the finding from this day will inform the School Development Plan and Pupil Voice remains high on our agenda for continued improvement next year.</li> <li>• Increased use of the Marvellous Me App to share specific information, successes and achievements</li> <li>• New Website will feature a top tips Signing page which will have videos of how to sign key and new words</li> <li>• New signs in Newsletter every month</li> </ul>

**PART 7**

What you have said:	The impact of your views and other actions:
<p>Transition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 97% agree that Herons Dale supports the preparation of my child joining the school</li> <li>• <i>Superb transition – thank you</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Herons Dale have taken part in a County Led Transition Project this year which has seen us developing a Transition Policy</li> <li>• Tours are now led by the member of the Leadership Team with the most relevant background. This enables us to have a really informative discussion with parents and ensures relevant staff get to know as much about the pupils joining us, as quickly as possible, so we can support transition as effectively as we can</li> </ul>



<p>Medical Needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>100% agree that their child's medical needs are met by the class team</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School Nurse on site and ensures all training is up to date and is responsive to any changing demands</li> </ul>
<p>Speech and Language Therapy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>96% agree that their child's speech and language therapy needs are met by the SaLT service</li> <li><i>Support is always readily available</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SaLT continue to attend Parents Evenings</li> <li>SaLT continue to hold clinics which staff can attend to seek advice and input to ensure they are supporting pupil's needs in class</li> </ul>
<p>Physiotherapy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>86% agree that their child's physiotherapy needs are met by the service</li> <li><i>Needs more intervention physically</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hérons Dale are engaged in a Physiotherapy Pilot run by West Sussex County Council, this has secured increased provision and additional training for staff</li> <li>Physiotherapists attend parents evening</li> <li>Higher Level Teaching Assistant appointed to lead on Physical Development</li> <li>Sherbourne Development now used as a strategy in school</li> <li>Bikeability introduced</li> <li>Pool now consistently open and is being further utilised for Physio programmes, facilitated by an increase in Lifeguard hours</li> </ul>
<p>Occupational Therapy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>92% agree that their child's needs are met by the OT</li> <li><i>AMAZING – Cannot praise the team enough</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>OT has been incorporated into the Pilot above as we have reported this need to County</li> <li>OT continue to hold clinics which staff can attend to seek advice and input to ensure they are supporting pupil's needs in class</li> <li>OT attend parents evenings</li> </ul>
<p>Visual Impairment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>100% agree that their child's visual impairment needs are supported by the school</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tactile walls around school</li> <li>QR reader used in the Library to support pupils accessing books</li> </ul>
<p>Hearing Impairment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No response</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase in use of Talking Tins to support learning and ensure that displays are interactive (switches that can be pressed and they play a recorded message)</li> <li>Use of buzzers and other auditory resources to support learning</li> </ul>

