



Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2015

Dear Parents/Carers,

**Re: Parent and Pupil Surveys, July 2015**

I am pleased to be writing to you to let you know about some of the positive feedback we have received from you through the Parent surveys which were completed online in July. As well as lots of aspects of school life where we have sustained strengths, there are many areas in which you have been pleased to see improvements over 2014 - 2015 which are detailed below. Of course, there are always areas to further develop too, and I would like to reassure you that as with surveys undertaken last year, we will use your feedback wisely to continue to improve our school. We have already met as a senior leadership team to begin to discuss actions following the analysis of the surveys and will continue to across the year.

- **Clubs and activities**

**89% of parents believe that there are a broad range of clubs and activities available.**

**96.2% of pupils believe that they are encouraged to keep fit and healthy (83.3% all of the time!).**

As a result of your feedback we will continue to offer an **ever expanding, broad range of clubs**. To enable us to develop PE provision even further this year we are delighted to welcome Mr Mitchell to our staff team. Mr Mitchell will support children at playtime, lunchtime and during PE lessons. In addition to this, as the term progresses, he will support and lead further clubs. There are also plans for cookery clubs later this year and Mrs Forbes and Mrs Hunt are looking forward to the start of Farm Club next week. We hope that all of these clubs will continue to support children to access a broad curriculum and enable children to develop and demonstrate our school values of respect, kindness and ambition further.

Feedback from the Breakfast and After School Club surveys was also excellent (**100% of children enjoying these clubs!**). In particular, a number of parents commented on the excellent quality of food and the supportive manner from staff. Mrs Howe and Miss Douglas are always keen to develop provision and this year plan to continue to involve children in creating the dinner menu and increasing the creative/ art activity provision.

- **Anti-bullying and learning behaviour**

**98.2% of parents believe that Alban Wood promotes anti-bullying and encourages excellent learning behaviour.**

**94.3% of pupils believe that adults and the Bully Busters promote and encourage excellent learning behaviour.**

This is a positive that we would like to continue to build upon further. Receiving our anti-bullying accreditation earlier in the year recognised lots of strengths and we would like to develop these in particular. This year **Anti-Bullying week is the week beginning 16<sup>th</sup> November** and as a Senior Leadership team we have already begun to think about some of the events that will take place across the week. We hope to have a non-school uniform day on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November to raise money for Kidscape, an anti-bullying charity, as well as a number of events in class to continue to raise awareness of bullying and cyber bullying. Our Bully Busters did a fantastic job last year in raising awareness of anti-bullying and Mrs Forbes has a number of ideas to support the bully busters again this year.

Within the classroom, we continue to see excellent learning behaviour every day and the introduction of Alban Wood Houses will allow classes to collectively celebrate this. When you are in school next please have a look at our Alban Wood House display within the reception area which was kindly created by Mrs Overy.

- **Parent workshops**

**98.2% of parents believe that this school helps me to support my child to learn.**

**98.2% of parents believe that Alban Wood gives parents/carers a clear indication of what is taught and how.**

Feedback in relation to workshops last year was positive (transition to secondary school, calculations, play in Early Years, home school agreement and changes to SEN) and we will continue to build upon the success of these. As a result of your feedback we **will target specific year groups for workshops** and will run at least one workshop per half term.





We have also been asked to run workshops in relation to transition, therefore our first two workshops for this academic year will be:

**Transition from Year 2 to Year 3** (Moving from Key Stage 1 to Key Stage 2) **on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September, 9am**  
**Transition from Reception to Year 1** (Moving from Early Years to Key Stage 1) **on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 9am**

To support parents who are unable to attend our workshops all slides and resources will be uploaded to our school website. Slides from last year have been uploaded onto the website – please do have a look.

- **Topic learning**  
**97.4% of pupils say that they enjoyed topic learning last year.**  
**98.7% of pupils say that learning at Alban Wood is interesting and fun.**

This is a strength that we hope to continue to build upon this year as we move into the second year of our topics. Year 1 and Year 2 have started their London topic and have completed some excellent **London themed homework** – thank you for your continued support with homework. Year 3 and Year 4 have started their **Mayan topic** and Mrs Townley and Miss Turner have both enjoyed researching this new topic for Alban Wood, and Year 5 and Year 6 have already learnt about some of **the British monarchs from the past**. Year groups have shared topic displays outside their classroom – please do have a look at these when you are in and around school.

Staff (both teaching and support staff) complete annual surveys too and were also very positive about the new curriculum – **for example, 100% believing that our topic curriculum has provided children with excellent opportunities to apply their Maths and English skills**. To continue to develop a creative curriculum we have a Dance INSET planned for September and an Art INSET for January. Finally, in relation to the curriculum, all of our curriculum resources including homework grids are on our website.

- **Pupil voice and responsibilities**  
**98.1% of pupils said there are pupil voice opportunities within their class.**

This is an area of school life that we worked hard to develop last year following feedback from the previous surveys. This year we will continue to develop this area through the introduction of Alban Wood Community Farm, as each class will have a day for farm responsibilities in addition to special farm jobs that are given to children across the week (collecting eggs, playing with the animals, feeding them etc).

Last week, on Friday in assembly children enjoyed learning about **British values and discussed values that were important to them** – have a look on the display in the reception area for some of their ideas. One key value is the value of democracy and to support children with this value we will hold a **democracy afternoon on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September**. During this afternoon children will get the opportunity to vote for School and Eco Council reps and Year 6 will present their speeches for Chair and Vice Chair positions.

We have some ideas for projects for both Eco Council and School council this term although we are trying to limit our ideas to ensure that projects are initiated and led by pupils! Look out for pupil written letters coming home over the next few weeks with their ideas.

Apologies for the long letter today, but I do hope that it is has been helpful to summarise these findings for you and give you a sense of exciting developments to come! **Please do look at our screen in the main Reception area when you are next in school as more of the top lines from survey feedback will be shared here.** Please do not hesitate to ask if you have any further questions or queries.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Charlotte Davis  
*Deputy Headteacher*

