

Please share your views as parents of the school on Ofsted Parent View at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted>

Please see our guide on how to register and log in on the Parent Feedback Page.

We greatly appreciate parent feedback and believe that as a school, partnership with parents is important. We have an open door approach at Longvernal, where staff welcome your involvement in school and view education as a two way partnership.

In September 2014 we sent a parent questionnaire. At that time there were sixty four families attending Longvernal School, twenty questionnaires were returned.

	(please tick)	Strongly Agree	%	Agree	%	Disagree	%	Strongly Disagree	%
1	My Child is happy at this school	13	65	7	35	0	0	0	0
2	My Child feels safe at this school	14	70	6	30	0	0	0	0
3	My Child makes good progress at this school	12	60	8	40	0	0	0	0
4	My Child is well looked after at this school	15	75	5	25	0	0	0	0
5	My Child is well taught at this school	15	75	5	25	0	0	0	0
6	My Child receives the appropriate homework for their age	8	40	10	50	1	5	1	5
7	The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved	9	45	11	55	0	0	0	0
8	The school deals effectively with bullying	15	75	5	25	0	0	0	0
9	The school is well led and managed	13	65	7	35	0	0	0	0
10	The school responds well to any concerns I raise	13	65	7	35	0	0	0	0
11	I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress	13	65	7	35	0	0	0	0
12	Would you recommend this school to another parent	12	60	8	40	0	0	0	0

Additional parent comments were as follows;

What the school does well.

As a school we;

- "Care and nurture of pupils."
- "Topics and curriculum are exciting and good."
- "Allow children to work ahead and fulfil their potential."

- The teachers and the school have “high expectations.”
- There is, “A lovely positive feel amongst staff, with lots of smiles.”
- “Lots of outdoor learning and care and affection for our children.”
- “Communication has greatly improved through the text system.”
- “School meals are very good.”
- The school is, “creating a varied and very pleasant learning environment for the children indoors and outside.”
- “Staff all seem caring, committed and it is a good team.”
- “It seems to be a happy and progressive school that aims to cater to quite a wide range of needs very well. It has a lovely forest area and bright, happy classrooms.”
- “Communication with parents is good.”
- “Promotes a safe, fun learning environment for children. Staff are extremely pleasant and welcoming.”
- “They are good at helping children who need extra support.”
- “Micro – Our children have been very well looked after by teachers and T.As. The current Headteacher has also been very involved in our children’s care.”
- “Macro – Our children have been well understood – socially, academically and personally. Therefore as a family we feel included in their education.”
- “Each child is treated as an individual with distinct needs. The staff team are caring and nurturing. The work has a good balance with fun and is perfect for KS1.”
- “The school has greatly improved in every way since we joined a year ago. It finally seems like it is being led brilliantly and teachers seem much happier.”
- “Children are valued as individuals. The adults in Reception year all know my son really well and he has made fantastic progress both academically and socially. The topics and curriculum are interesting, staff have high expectations.”
- “Great outdoor activities.”
- “Teachers are very nurturing, and continue to inspire and encourage my daughter during her education at primary school. In turn my daughter continues to shine in her progress, at every school report/parents evening. Most important my daughter enjoys her school and her learning. Happy child = happy mummy.”

Feedback was shared with staff and we thank you for you positive comments.

Where can we improve?

- **One parent raised the issue of homework and that she did not agree with homework in KS1.**

School Response: Homework is always a bone of contention. We understand that families live busy lives, however reading and learning spellings is seen as a shared responsibility of our two way partnership. Reading is an important life skill and without it pupils may struggle to achieve their full potential. Should you need support with this or practical help please speak to your child’s class teacher. In KS2 homework is good preparation for Secondary School where it is compulsory. Therefore we see this as good preparation for meeting deadlines and sharing work with parents.

- **More opportunities for Gifted and Talented in sports activities.**

School Response: Through the School Sports Partnership and Sports Funding, sports opportunities have increased for all pupils, including Gifted and Talented pupils. Tournaments have increased from three to eight. Sports clubs have increased from four to fourteen last year from the previous year. Other competitions increased from three to six. Please see PE & Sports Premium Report on the Statutory Page.

- **PTA – New parents would like to get involved, more information on how this could happen.**

School Response: All parents are encouraged to be involved. A meeting has been arranged for 1st October 2015 to discuss further opportunities for parents. The key points will be shared in a letter to parents.

- **The uniform is expensive.**

School Response: We note the comment on expense; however it is high quality uniform which lasts longer than budget uniform from supermarkets. Our pupils are proud of their uniform, which without question is the smartest in the area. A parent has offered to look into this, knowing we are not willing to compromise on quality, however if we find a cheaper provider we will do so.

- **More opportunities for parents to come in and attend assemblies and look at work.**

School Response: Classes are now organising assemblies through the year where you will be invited in to share work and have an opportunity to speak to your child's class teacher. Please remember you are welcome to come in after school to share work and catch up on your child's progress as and when you wish to do so.

- **House points – Should not just be based on sporting ability, it should celebrate behaviour, effort, achievement and sport. Not all children are good at sport; therefore the House Cup should reflect all achievements.**

School response: House points and the House Cup. We totally agree with this feedback. House points are now awarded across the year for all achievements. Examples of this include attendance, behaviour, homework, academic achievements, effort, kind acts and vocational achievements.

- **Need to build identity in the community, historically in the past there have been too many wishy washy ideas. Although consistency of leadership appears to be on the up.**

School response: We are building our profile in the community, forging links with local companies such as Tesco, Curo and the Town Council. Longvernal did not traditionally get involved in local events however this is not the case now. We actively look for opportunities for local press coverage. The school are clear about our aims and vision and have a clear focus of what our key priorities are.

- **More outdoor learning please!**

School Response: We recognise the benefit of outdoor learning. This is a key focus for the school with every class having weekly forest sessions. In addition to this we endeavour to take advantage of our beautiful grounds in many areas of the curriculum. Examples include art, science, maths, story making and P.E.

- **School dinners, dessert needs to include more healthy options cut down on sugar content, e.g. cake.**

School Response: We have spent a great deal of time trying to make dinners healthier with greater choice. Fresh fruit and yogurts are available every day. We have consulted with parents and are intending to form a working party to review the menu. Details will follow on this through the school office.

- **The website is not very useful and rarely updated.**

School Response: We totally agree that the old website was not fit for purpose. This was due to a software issue. However a new website is now in place and systems to keep it up to date are in place. We try to include as much information as possible; however we are open to suggestions. Please speak to Mrs Courtier, the Headteacher or the Office Staff .

- **More music and the opportunity to explore instruments.**

School response: Opportunities for music have greatly increased. We have attended a number of high profile events such as the BBC Ten Pieces at the Abbey in Bath. Employment of two teachers with musical talents has also helped with this. Many parents were staggered and emotional at watching our recent production of Alice in Wonderland with twelve pupils singing solos. An improvement from the previous year where only one child sang a solo. Pupils also played instruments during the show. This was a real celebration of a year's work developing confidence in music as well as the Performing Arts. Another notable achievement was two boys from Longvernal being selected for the Bath Abbey Choir, we are proud of this achievement as there were only three places available. The boys performed to a high standard and went through a gruelling selection process against more than twenty other BANES schools. The impact of this achievement has seen both boys achieve well academically, it is evident that their confidence and self-esteem has greatly improved.

- **More educational trips in line with other schools.**

School response: Educational Trips have greatly increased. Years 3 & 4 now have a yearly residential trip in place. This alternates between a camp at Chelwood based around Forest School and canoeing and an overnight trip to London, where we will visit the Science Museum, Natural History Museum, bus tour of other famous landscapes, the Tower of London and visit the Diana Princess Memorial Playground. Year 5 & 6 have a two year rolling programme in place for residential trips. Last year visiting the Isle of Wight for 2 nights & 3 days. This year travelling to Granville in France for 3 nights & 4 days. In addition to this we "hired" Rainbow Woods exclusively for Longvernal pupils over a two week period. This enabled each class to have two days of Forest experience in the breath-taking surroundings at Prior Park. KS1 pupils enjoyed a trip to Glastonbury. In addition to this there were a host of other trips including Life Skills, Science Adventure at Bath University,

Renishaw Imagineering , the Pantomime, Commonwealth Day, Farm to Fork and other events at local schools and churches.

- **More notice given for cake sales and events.**

School Response: The texting /e-mail service has enabled us to communicate with parents better as letters can be easily lost or delivery delayed due to being in the bottom of book bags. Please feel free to make further suggestions on how we can improve this service.

- **Discos to run later in the evening and fetes on Saturdays.**

School Response: We welcome the suggestion of events on Saturdays or late in the evening. We are happy to facilitate this, however we need your help to plan and execute these events. Please give feedback at the PTA fund raising events or to the school office or Mrs Courtier.