

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you very much to those of you who responded to our Parent Survey online over the past few weeks. We've been diligently collating the data to try to understand your views better. It was really great to receive such positive feedback, and such helpful comments. One of the key results mentioned that parents wanted more communication at George Tomlinson. I wanted to highlight some of the things we are doing in order to improve communication so that we can move forward as a school:

- There is a new format for Curriculum Newsletters which every year group is sending out each half term. This outlines all of the things they will be learning for the duration of the half term, and includes information about trips and other important dates as well.
- We started the 'Parent Open Afternoons' so that parents could informally have a look at children's work and ask any questions of class teachers. We understand that for working parents the 3.15pm timeslot is not suitable so we will also hold these at 6pm run by SLT next time
- Mums/Dads days were designed so that parents would have a bit of an insight into what it's like to be in class. We will run these every term
- There are around 40 Parent workshops available over the course of the Spring and Summer terms. The parent workshop leaflet of events is on the GT website, under Parents—Workshops—Parent Workshop Leaflet. This is also where you will find PowerPoints and PDFs from the workshops
- Every parent workshop ends with an evaluation form, and space for you to ask any questions or communicate with the person running the course
- We have taken on board comments about wanting to know about children's targets, and they are now being sent home at Parent's Evening in a clear and easy to understand format. We are also increasing the amount of times you will find out about your child's attainment and progress by sending home half termly assessment reports. The first will go home next week before the Easter holidays
- Members of the Senior Leadership Team are on the playground every day at home time. If you cannot see us we will be in the opposite playground (KS1/2) or in a meeting. If you ever need to have a discussion about your child or you have any concerns please email us and the Headteacher or one of SLT will meet with you
- I hold drop-in sessions in addition to this every Wednesday from 9am until 11am if you need to discuss anything
- We have now sent out letters with key dates so parents are aware of events in advance. We will be sending home a calendar of all upcoming dates for the 2017/18 year ahead on a calendar for you so that you have the academic dates far in advance
- Our new website will be launched after Easter and will have daily updated pictures of children's work in each year group, photos of trips, events and activities. We will also have a

YouTube channel to showcase children's work and activities. This is in addition to our Twitter account

- All classes will be using Dojo points after Easter which is a fantastic way for parents to see what kind of day their child has had and communicate with the teacher (letter home next week)
- Weekly newsletter is emailed out on a Friday and is on our website. The new EYFS newsletter will be printed off and handed out as well as emailed at the end of every Friday too
- We can always find a translator for parents with little English. Please ask the office for support with this
- Text messages are sent reminding parents of key events or workshops and emails are sent with letters attached to avoid letters being lost en route home (if you are not receiving these, please see the office to update your contact details)
- Coffee mornings for a variety of languages will commence after Easter as well as free English lessons for parents (information will go out next week) and our Baby & Toddler Group which runs every Wednesday from 915am-11am will be joined by a Baby & Toddler Music group running every Thursday 915am-11am. Families from outside our school community are also very welcome

We notice that although we sent home the data collection sheets in the Autumn Term, we still do not have correct email or telephone numbers for many of our parents. Without these we are unable to communicate effectively with you. **Please check your details with the office and update us immediately should your number or email change.**

We very much welcome any further suggestions and comments; so please do get in touch! Thanks again to all those who participated, this has helped us continue to improve our school.

Kind regards,

Verity Carter
Headteacher

