

LEAS PARK JUNIOR SCHOOL
QUESTIONNAIRE FOR PARENTS AND CARERS - RESPONSES
JULY 2019

Thank you so much to everyone who took the time to respond to and return our questionnaire in July - we had 75 responses in total which will really help us as we plan our work this year and beyond. Below is a summary of responses (please note the figures may not total 100% as some parents answered some questions and not others) including comments.

		YES (please tick)	NO (please tick)
1.	a) Do you think we offer a range of trips for the children?	98%	0
	b) Do you have any suggestions of other places the children could visit?	Suggestions included: National Space Centre, Houses of Parliament, Eyam, Magna, Walesby, Skegness, Bosworth Field, Clip and Climb, York.	
2.	a) Do you think we have a range of visitors to speak to the children in assembly?	88%	0
	b) Do you have any suggestions of other visitors we could invite in to school?	Suggestions included: local businesses, police / nurses and other professionals, local sports clubs.	
3.	a) Has your child taken part in one of our residential / sleepovers this year?	74%	24%
	b) If not, what was the main reason?	No reasons were given.	
4.	Do you find the termly curriculum newsletter useful?	94%	4%
5.	a) Has your child enjoyed the range of practical/making/creating activities this year?	94%	1%
	b) Do you think we offer the right balance of practical/making/creating activities?	81%	4%
6.	Year 3 parents only: a) Do you think the transition from Nettleworth to Leas Park was effective?	37%	0
	b) What could we do to make it even better?	Suggestions included; meeting the teacher before September, a more gradual change with regard to routine and behavior, allowing parents to accompany their child to a session in school, supporting the children with eating / lunchtimes and changing the displays in the hall.	
7.	Year 6 parents only: a) Do you think your child is prepared for the transition to secondary school?	13%	2%
	b) what could we do to make it even better?	Suggestions included: a full week at the child's chosen secondary school, Leas Park staff being present at the secondary school, having information from ALL Mansfield secondary schools not just the nominated feeder school, less focus on SATs.	
	<p>We have held workshops for parents on English, maths, internet safety and behaviour this year. If you would like us to hold a parent workshop on a specific topic next year, what would you like us to organise?</p> <p>No suggestions were made, however some parents commented that they would like workshops to be held after school / handouts sent home to accommodate parents who work. Several parents commented on how much they had enjoyed the workshops provided last year, and how useful they had been.</p>		

What next?

- We have started to plan for this academic year and will research the great ideas for trips and visitors suggested by parents. One parent commented that the children already go to Southwell Minster during their time at Nettleworth - we didn't know that so we have cancelled that trip and have replaced it with something else related to the children's topic work! Thank you! We will continue to subsidise the cost of trips for every child, and endeavor to make sure every child goes on a trip every term.
- We have worked hard to increase the amount and type of visitors we have coming in to school to talk to the children during assembly and lesson time. Following your suggestions we will definitely be contacting local businesses too. We do have a careers week in year 6 when we invite all sorts of businesses / working parents in to school to talk to the children, but we agree it is a good idea to do this for the younger years too.
- We are very glad you find the curriculum and weekly newsletter helpful and useful. We will continue to send these home, and put the weekly newsletters on our website.
- We are also glad you think we have got the balance right with regard to practical / making and creating activities. We have worked hard to ensure that the children experience a range of activities - including cooking.
- Transition from Nettleworth Infant school has evolved over the last few years, and now consists of a wide range of activities - from year 5 children going to Nettleworth to read with the children every term, to the transition day in the summer term. Unfortunately, we would find it extremely difficult to have a 'gradual' change with regard to routine and behavior - we have to stick to and apply our policies consistently. We do offer parents the opportunity to meet their child at the meeting in the summer term - the only time this wouldn't be possible would be if the teacher is new to Leas Park and can't be released from their existing job. We can certainly see if we could improve this and maybe offer a second opportunity. For the first few days, all staff are around during lunchtimes as we recognise that this can be a bit daunting, particularly for the younger children. In addition, the year six children 'buddy up' with year three for the first few days to show them what to do! We simply don't have the space (classes of thirty five!!) to invite parents in to a session at school, but we do have termly 'open book' afternoons at the end of the day when we invite parents in to school. We will continue with those this year as we know parent find them extremely useful.
- Transition to Manor Academy has also evolved over the last few years. We are led by Manor staff as to what they want to organise and the dates they put in the diary. Unfortunately if they only want the year six children for two or three days instead of the whole week, we aren't in a position to change that. Leas Park staff do occasionally accompany some children for some of the time, but the main purpose of the visit / week is for the children to experience secondary school as close to what it will be like in September without our staff as a safety net! Please be assured that we are in contact with secondary staff every day whilst the children are there, however, and we would always be available should we need to be. With regard to the other Mansfield Secondary schools, we can certainly contact them to see if they would like to come and talk to the children - this could link with the previous comments regarding visitors to assembly.
- We are really pleased our workshops have been so well received and we will plan more for this year. A lot of what is covered is deliberately very 'hands on' and practical, so sometimes a handout isn't possible, but we can certainly look at that for this year. We can also look at holding some of the workshops after school - although this will depend upon staff availability, and may also involve having to cancel after school clubs.

Thank you for your continued support - we look forward to working with you again this academic year!