



'Learning together, loving others, guided by God'

Heene Church of England (Aided) Primary School

Friday 2nd July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

First of all this week please let me thank those of you who have taken the time to complete the questionnaires which we sent home to you last week. We are genuinely grateful for your 126 responses, your honesty and the views you have expressed to us. I am so pleased that a large number of parents have responded and please be assured that we will be sharing the full outcomes from the questionnaire with you as parents, with the staff body and with Governors. It is extremely important we continually capture your views on how well we are doing and the areas we need to improve upon and so we will be repeating the survey again early on in the Autumn Term, to ensure we are steadily making improvements to our school and that you are able to recognize these. The questionnaire will remain live until Monday morning, giving a little more time for you to respond if you have not been able to do so before now. Please do take this opportunity to share your thoughts with us in response to the questions we are asking you. Please also remember that Mrs Walton and I want to hear your concerns as well as positive feedback on the things we are doing, and would ask you to do that using the head@heenepriamary.co.uk email address which will see your communication coming directly to us and not via the office as has previously been the case. Many parents have already done this and we would encourage you to continue to do so and we assure you of a reply.

Questionnaire Themes so far: The themes raised in the questionnaire so far have been as follows:

Lack of clarity regarding homework

Concerns about pupil behaviour in some year groups

Inconsistent teaching and teachers in classrooms with too many supply staff in school.

Poor communication across the school and at all levels.

We will continue to monitor the questionnaires over the next three days and give you a full review of the outcomes of the survey in next Friday's newsletter. Please do keep your responses coming. We are working hard to address the issues you are raising and are planning for quick improvements in as many areas as possible.

Reports are coming home today:

We are delighted to be able to send home your child's end of year school report today. Mrs Walton and I have really enjoyed reading each one and trust that after an extremely 'different' year, you will also be able to celebrate your child's achievements with them.



INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE



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Along with your child's report, you will receive today an additional letter informing you who your child's teacher will be next year and also what their new class name will be. You will notice that one of the classes is still awaiting the class teacher's name and this is simply because today we are appointing our final teacher for the start of the New Year and as soon as we have completed this process we will let you know who the class teacher will be for the current Elephants Class. Do please discuss your child's report and class for next year when you meet the teachers next week at Parents and Carers' Consultation Evenings. If you have not yet been able to make an appointment then do please contact the school office if you are unsure how to do this.

Raising Expectations for the whole community of Heene CE (Aided) Primary School:

Mrs. Walton and I have now been at Heene together for four weeks and we both (along with Miss Beer) are agreed that we understand fully what the school needs to do to improve and we have developed a plan to drive those improvements. Mrs. Sherlock, who will lead the school with me from September, was in school today and we too are clear of the actions we need to take moving forward. Central to the improvements we want to make are for all teachers and leaders to have much higher expectations of what ALL of the children are able to achieve. We want to set our expectations of ourselves much higher than they have been in order that we can expect more from the children too; we simply have to do better in all areas of our work at Heene. More details about this will follow in the coming three weeks so that all parents will know what to expect in September and what these raised expectations will look like. Whilst we will be clear with staff about what the higher expectations of them will be we are also going to begin to make the expectations of children clearer too. Our focus will be on much higher expectations of all children in the classroom, their work, their behaviour, the progress and their treatment of each other as well as much improved communication with parents. As I have already said, we will be sending home some precise details of those higher expectations as the coming weeks unfold.

Uniform expectations:

Having just said all the above about higher expectations, please may I respectfully remind parents that we do (and will going forward) expect all of the children to wear correct school uniform including the PE Kit too. Please can I ask you to ensure you are fully aware of what the uniform expectations are and that you do all you can to ensure these are correctly worn at school. Thank you in advance for your support with this.

Traffic outside of school:

Unfortunately I am having to report that the traffic outside of school along Norfolk Road is becoming unsafe for our children and parents crossing the road to the park or to meet parents. Please can I ask that if you are driving outside of school at any time, you drive with extreme caution. Some of the reports I have had from parents do not demonstrate this, with some being extremely dangerous. Thank you so much for taking this matter seriously as we do all we can to keep all of our children safe.

Please do have a lovely weekend.

Joy Waelend

Co-Headteacher