

15 May 2018



Dear Parents and Carers

As the summer approaches and we once again begin our final term of the academic year, we wanted to share the feedback we received from our recent **parent survey**, which was overwhelmingly positive. Thank you to those who took the time to fill it in. We have summarised the overall results below and tried to capture any written feedback into the *'you really like'* and *'even better if'* sections.

We are always keen to improve; following this analysis the area we will focus on is 'giving valuable feedback about your child's progress.' Since the questionnaire was sent you have received your child's annual school report which hopefully provided you with information about your child. The teachers are also happy to arrange meetings with parents at their request to discuss progress and targets in more detail. You will also be given details of any statutory testing and have the opportunity to attend our parent consultation sessions in July. If there is any further information you would like regarding progress please speak to your child's teacher or contact one of the Heads to discuss how we can make changes as a school.

**Paula Bliss**

**Sandra Peers**

<b>Parent Survey St. Michael's Infant School April 2018</b>					
	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
<b>My child is happy at school</b>	69%	31%	0	0	0
<b>My child feels safe at school</b>	75%	22%	0	0	3%
<b>My child makes good progress at school.</b>	53%	39%	3%	0	5%
<b>My child is taught well at school.</b>	61%	39%	0	0	0
<b>The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved.</b>	44%	53%	0	0	3%
<b>The school deals effectively with bullying.</b>	17%	25%	0	0	59% (presumed to be no experience of this)
<b>The school is well led and managed.</b>	50%	42%	0	0	8%
<b>I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress.</b>	28%	53%	14%	0	6%
<b>I would recommend this school to another parent.</b>	80%	19%	0	0	0%

Head of School **Mrs Sandra Peers** Executive Headteacher **Mrs Paula Bliss**  
 St Michael's School, School Lane, Mickleham, Surrey RH5 6EW  
 Telephone: 01372 373717 Fax: 01372 373717 Email: [info@stmichaels-dorking.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:info@stmichaels-dorking.surrey.sch.uk)



<b>Parent Survey St. Michael's Infant School April 2018 contd</b>	
<b>You really like:</b>	<b>Even better if:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The weekly update and new whiteboards for each class to share learning.</li> <li>• Engaging topic themes.</li> <li>• The enthusiasm and commitment of the staff.</li> <li>• Open and approachable leadership team.</li> <li>• Termly Open classrooms to see your child's work.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feedback was given more regularly.</li> <li>• Parents were made more aware of the role of the Executive Head.</li> </ul>

### **A Message from Mrs Bliss**

One of the points of feedback from the survey was a request to gain a greater understanding of the role of the Executive Head, so I thought now would be a good time to give you a little more information about the leadership arrangements at the school and my role within it.

Firstly, on a personal level may I say that I feel honoured to have been given the opportunity to contribute to the leadership of the school. As the Head of another small rural, church infant school (Newdigate C of E Infant School) I am absolutely convinced that they can provide the very best foundation for any child's learning and am passionate about working to develop and maintain their continued success. There have been many benefits to this collaboration, staff have been incredibly open and willing to learn from each other and we have worked closely to develop our safeguarding practices, moderate our standards, improve our approaches to marking and feedback, EYFS record keeping, implement positive behaviour strategies and we have been able to support each other with staffing arrangements! Governors have also worked together to learn about strategic development in our small schools.

We were blessed to have had such a capable, energetic and experienced Head of School join us; her enthusiasm and professionalism, coupled with the commitment and support of the many other staff at the school, has helped make this transition so smooth and successful.

As an Executive Head I am focussed primarily on strategic leadership and school improvement, working in close collaboration with the governing body to set the vision and strategic direction for St. Michael's. Mrs Peers and I then work with other staff to translate this vision and strategy into operational plans that make a difference to the children in our school. We are of course always keen to work with other professionals and schools who will help us develop and improve, so part of my role is to liaise and work with the wider educational community. As well as being an active member of the Dorking Schools Partnership we also work very closely with the Guildford Diocesan team and representatives from the Local Authority.

Although I am at the school for just one day a week I have made sure that I get to know the children and they get to know me; in a small school relationships are the glue that holds everything together. Each week I lead a whole school values worship and make sure that I spend some time in the classrooms. You will usually find me standing on the corner at the start of the school day come rain or shine, please feel free to take the opportunity to talk to me if there is anything you would like to share. Mrs Peers is of course here for the whole week, should you need to contact her the best days are Thursday and Friday during her leadership time.

Thank you so much for making me and Mrs Peers feel so welcome and supporting us during our time at St. Michael's. This school is undoubtedly a 'hidden gem' that continues to sparkle and shine because of the commitment and dedication of the children and families, staff and governors who work together to make a strong and flourishing community. We will continue to work hard at making this the best place it can be and maintain the very special character St. Michael's has.

**Paula Bliss**