

10<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Dear Families,

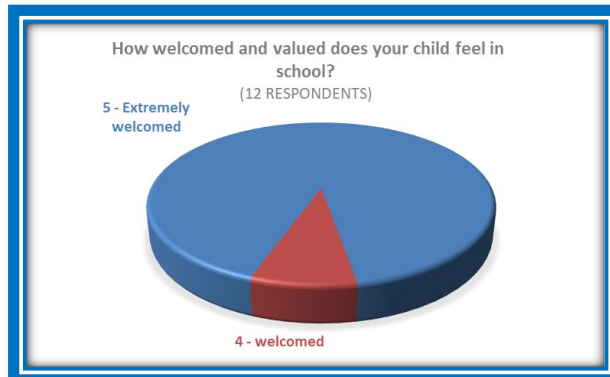
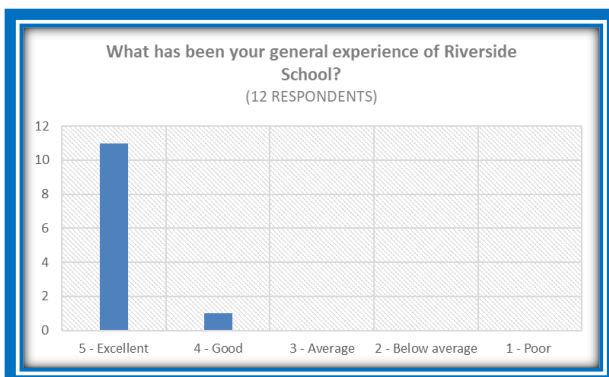
I hope you are all well. We are now half way through the school year and time really has flown by. There are so many things to look back on and smile about and I hope that your child has enjoyed this half term as much as we have. There are also so many things to look forward to and, as the temperature starts to rise and the daffodils start to appear, we will continue to do all we can to help your child blossom in the second half of the Spring Term.

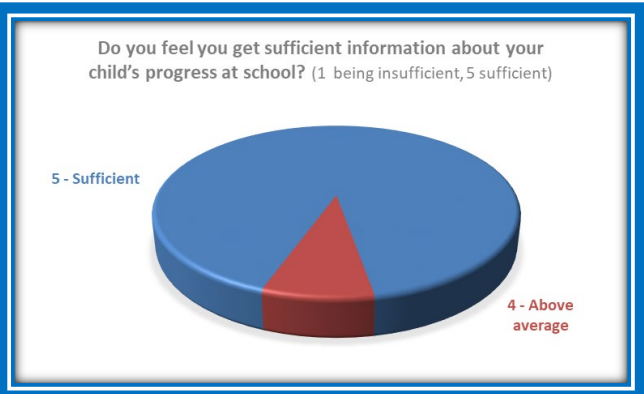
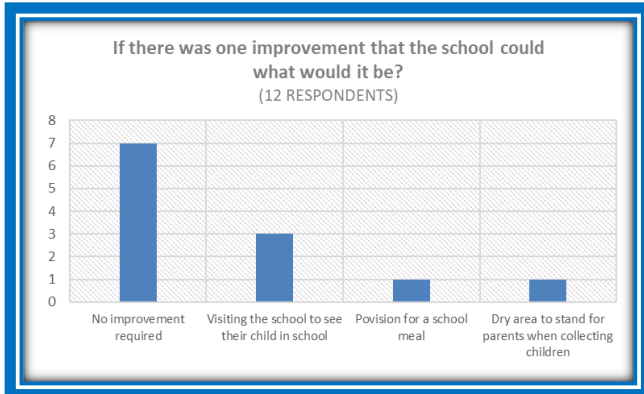
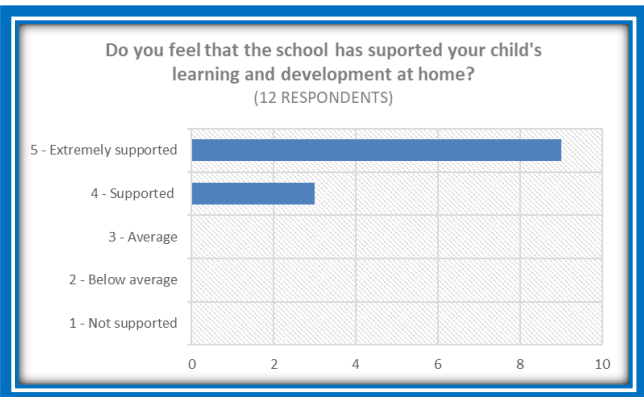
You will soon receive your child's Unique Profile (UP) and we hope you enjoy reading about and sharing your child's many achievements over the past six months. If your child's annual review is on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February, you will also be receiving their progress report and a reminder for all families that school is closed for all pupils on that day as it has been allocated as one of our five INSET days for this academic year. You may have also heard the recent government announcement that Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May has been made a Bank Holiday to mark the coronation of His Majesty King Charles III.

We are in the final stages of refreshing our school website and look forward to sharing some new content, training materials and videos very soon but in the meantime, it gives me great pleasure to share our new Welcome to Riverside film that will soon feature on the home page. I hope you enjoy it and feel that it captures our very special school community. You can view our film at <https://youtu.be/Z4NIQmWqVCE>

Within today's letter, I would like to include the response from Roger Fernandes, our Family Engagement governor, following our recent Joiner's Survey:

*"Thank you to all our new families who were able to complete our recent Joiner's Survey. Your time and engagement is much appreciated and hearing from you, our families, is so very important to governors in their role of supporting and challenging the school to ensure it is as good as it can possibly be. We were delighted to read, from all our new families, that your impressions of Riverside School are very positive and we have included all of your ratings and comments below.*





### A few comments .....

*"Riverside School seems to be a good school for my child; he seems happy to go to school and is happy when he comes home."*

*"I am very happy with the input in the contact book to see how my son is progressing at school"*

*"The school writes home on a daily basis and also communicates exceptionally well via email/phone. This has given me great peace of mind."*

*"...is always eager to come to school which shows how great Riverside is for him. The staff are amazing, always keep me informed and take on any issues I have."*

*"Very welcomed and has been valued as the little person he is"*

*"All staff have been very welcoming and I love that every member of staff knows each individual child and family"*

*"I enjoy reading the contact book comments and seeing photos of what's been happening at school. It is a good way to keep in touch with school."*

*"... has settled in so well. This I believe is because of the support the school has provided."*

We also asked families for any suggestions they felt could make a real difference to the future of their child's education at Riverside School. Again, we received many positive comments and a few suggestions:



*"Overall so happy with how the school is doing"*

*"I would love to be a fly on the wall"*

*"I would prefer for my child to get some homework, reading and speech and language resources to do at home on a regular basis if possible"*

*"Provision for a school meal will make things easier (at Phoenix)"*

*"I would really like to watch him at school to see how I could interact with him on a play level."*

*"Consider having a place for parents and children to stand and stay dry when the weather is not favourable"*

*"Assist with potty training."*

*The comments and scores are really helpful to us as a Governing Board and will feed into our school development planning for the coming year. We are grateful for your comments and are delighted that they reflect the efforts and dedication of our staff to provide the very best for you and your children".*

As a school, we are always keen to hear your feedback and strive for excellence in everything we do. Whether you contributed to the Joiner's Survey as a new parent, or your child has been with us for many years, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us if there is anything further we can do to support you or your child. We are here to listen and here to act and our partnership with families will always remain a central part of what we do. Because that's The Riverside Way.

Wishing you all a lovely half term and with very best wishes,

Steve Solomons  
Headteacher