

## Autumn 2022 – BDES Parent Voice

We were delighted to collect 158 parental voice responses during our Autumn Term parent/teacher consultation.

The responses were overwhelmingly positive, it is clear that our pupils are happy, feel safe and are well-behaved at school.

Is there anything else you would like to tell us about the Catholic life and mission, education, or prayer at this school?



■ Strongly Agree 
 ■ Agree 
 ■ Don't know 
 ■ Disagree 
 ■ Strongly Disagree



This parent voice took place prior to our first Parent/Teacher consultation of the year, for those who 'Don't know' **how well their child is doing in RE and what they need to improve.**

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We would invite you to:

- Speak to your class teacher at afternoon collection.
- Discuss this in our three parent/teacher consultations per year.
- Review the work completed in your child's RE book prior to these consultations.
- Review RE comments in our Spring Term school reports.

Through strong communication we aim for every parent to be well-informed about their child's RE learning.

Mr McTernan will be meeting with Fr Elias in the coming weeks to discuss how we can further improve the strong links with the Parish, we are proud of the strong links we already have;

- Fr Elias and the parish priests regularly attend significant events in school, blessing classrooms each September, attending Sacramental workshops and events such as our Remembrance service.
- Pupils lead weekly Parish Masses on a Thursday morning, school are keen to develop the pupils' understanding that we are an active part of the parish community.
- Our new-Reception families are invited to a Welcome Mass each September as part of their welcoming transition.
- Our Year 3 pupils are invited to take part in the May Procession following their First Holy Communion, in future this wonderful occasion will also be a time to give out the First Holy Communion certificates.
- All staff attend the sacramental celebrations for our pupils, we recognise the significance of these important faith moments.
- Pupils who have received the sacrament of reconciliation are given termly opportunities to receive this sacrament during school time.

Mr McTernan has made contact with three families following this questionnaire, and will be meeting with them to discuss specific concerns and resolve them promptly.

There was a concern regarding the celebration of Halloween in school. We at the Abbey Catholic Primary School do not celebrate this secular event however we do discuss and mark the Christian feast of Hallowtide. This three day 'Tridium' of feasts starts with All Hallows Eve (Hallowe'en) and includes All Saints day (November 1<sup>st</sup>) and All Souls day (November 2<sup>nd</sup>). As Christians it is important we understand the faith origins of this time and take time to pray for the souls of those we know to be in Heaven (saints) and those who have passed before us (souls).

### **Parental Comments**

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*My daughter is supported beautifully in her faith journey by the Abbey and is constantly learning and developing her understanding of her faith.*

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*Really pleased with the many ways catholic life is promoted throughout school day.*

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*Wonderful school, excellent communication between teachers and parents. The ethos of the school shines through all the teachers and reflects on the pupils. Very happy my child is on her learning journey at the abbey.*

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*Moral compass is modelled beautifully for children.*

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*As a parent I enjoy being given the opportunity to attend school masses at church and we are looking forward to our eldest child making his First Holy Communion next year.*

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*Wonderful school, excellent communication between teachers and parents. The ethos of the school shines through all the teachers and reflects on the pupils. Very happy my child is on her learning journey at the abbey.*

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*I recently visited the school and found the collective worship organised by the children, is a real credit to the school and its staff. It was outstanding.*

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*I love the way the school promotes faith and family inclusion in that faith.*

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