

28th October 2021

Dear Community,

The half-term holiday seems like a distant memory as we have all come back to school with a **BANG** and settled into really positive learning routines. It is wonderful to see so many children begin their school day with a huge smile on their faces and showing genuine excitement about being in school, continuing their learning journeys and developing rich skills and knowledge across the entire curriculum.

Parent Feedback




It was great to be able to welcome returning parents and meet new parents for our virtual Happy Meet. Feedback from parents has been really positive with many commenting on how safe they feel children are, within our school. They have enjoyed having the regular morning activities at the front of the school and that the communication of the school has improved.

GEMS Parent Survey Feedback May 2021

Thank you to all the parents that completed the GEMS parent satisfaction survey back in May 2021. Since gaining your feedback, we have worked hard to address your points and put actions in place to make improvements. We have been sharing these improvements with you in our newsletters and social media posts since May 2021, and would like to share with you a more comprehensive summary of the work we have been doing. Please take the time to read our 'You Said, We Did' information, which we hope you find useful.

GEMS Parent Survey - November 2021

At the start of November, you will receive a link to the GEMS parent satisfaction survey for November. We have listened to your feedback from the last survey, and of course will continue to do so. We also love to hear about the things you are happy with at the school, as we have received positive comments from many of you on our social media pages, during face-to-face conversations, and during our webinars. We would be extremely grateful if you could take the time to complete the survey once it is released. The parent survey scoring system works as follows:

	Detractor: score of 0-6. This means you are unhappy
	Passive: score of 7-8. This means you are satisfied
	Promotor: score of 9-10. This means you are happy

Please make sure that you are balanced with your response, you may be unhappy with one particular area, but happy with the school overall. We would appreciate if this is reflected in your submission. If you are a new parent to the school, please could you assign us a score based on your experience so far. We hope that your son/daughter had a smooth transition into the school and felt supported.

Uniform

This is a reminder that all students should be in full school uniform with the exception of the hats which will be in stock very soon and some of the girl's dress sizes. We are continuing to work with Threads to ensure sticks are replenished quickly. Please be reminded that the students in the Junior School should have their shirts tucked in, with ties, at the beginning of every school day.

Student inauguration and student voice

The first ever Metropole Inauguration Ceremony was held this week. In the ceremony, we were honoured to hear insightful speeches given by our principal, Mr Naveed Iqbal, as well as our Secondary Head Girl and Boy who are wonderful role-models for our primary student leaders.

I wish the student leaders the best of luck in the upcoming year and look forward to seeing the changes that they make to the school.



The opening of our Forest School



Today was our official Forest School opening day. A huge thanks to our amazing forest school leaders, Alexandra Jones and Bethany Longville as well as Maria Myatt, Assistant Headteacher, for arranging the event.

The addition of Forest School to our wider curriculum has already been extremely beneficial for our pupils' development and a marvellous opportunity for them to approach their learning in a new and exciting way. Working outdoors, where they face different

challenges daily, helps to develop their confidence, problem solving skills, emotional well-being and self-belief. We are now lucky enough to have three Forest School Trained Staff working with the children to enhance their outdoors nature knowledge. The development is an ongoing project that will continue to progress and something we are very proud of.



Tara Foster

Kind Regards

Tara Foster



“ YOU SAID. WE DID. ”

Discover LEADERSHIP

“ I want to see more personalised learning ”

- Teachers identify students who require specific support and challenge - they personalise planning to ensure all students make progress
- A new-student induction process provides a smooth start for students, such as a buddy system
- TAs have been trained to support teachers in student personalised learning strategies
- Masterclasses enable students to pick their own activities

“ What do you do at the school for student wellbeing? ”

- More teen-to-teen mental health first aiders
- Lotus the emotional support therapy animal
- Counsellor podcasts
- Wellbeing curriculum in Prep and Senior schools
- Wellbeing student leaders

“ Regarding the progress of my child, I feel there are not enough updates ”

- Teachers contact parents on a monthly basis for a star and a wish
- Accelerated progress meetings to discuss student's expected level on baseline assessments in Primary
- More parental workshops across the year
- Half-termly rather than termly reports to update parents

“ I'd like to know more about how the students are prepared for their future ”

- Transition activities ensure students feel prepared
- Introduction of HPL (high performance learning) = students are equipped to become lifelong learners
- Enrichment programme for Year 9 to 13 to give them opportunities to think about and plan for their future
- MTS Talks in the Junior and Prep schools

“ There are not enough extra-curricular activities. Masterclasses are not effective ”

- High-quality extra-curricular activities during Masterclasses, including onsite and off-site opportunities
- Termly educational visits
- Increase in after school activities by ESM
- Duke of Edinburgh and Junior Duke Awards
- Sports squads re-introduced.

“ I want students to have more of a voice at the school ”

- Weekly meet the school leader sessions where students offer feedback and suggestions to improve the school
- Vast Student Leadership Team
- Model United Nations Masterclass

