

HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Ostley Bank
Barrow in Furness Cumbria LA13 9LR
Telephone: (01229) 828018
Website: www.holyfamily.cumbria.sch.uk
E Mail: head@holyfamily.cumbria.sch.uk

Tuesday 21st April 2026

Dear Parents/Carers

Our children have come back to school full of the joys of Spring - they have been delightful! I recently sent out a playground questionnaire to our older children in school, looking at ways we can improve their playtimes. The children had some wonderful ideas and as a result we have purchased some new, exciting play equipment for them to use. Our KS2 children have welcomed all of the new play equipment on the KS2 playground with open arms. The new wheelie chairs are great fun and it is lovely to see our older children having so much fun!

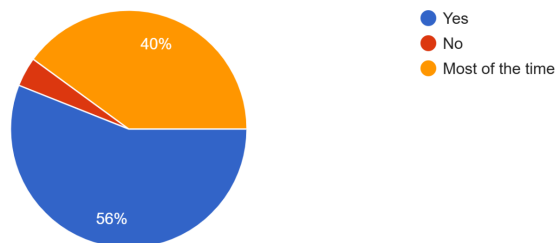
St George's Day

This year, we will be celebrating St George's Day on **Thursday 23rd April**. On this day, our children will be taking part in lots of activities related to British Values. We would like to invite our children to wear non-uniform which includes something red/white.

Communication in our School Survey

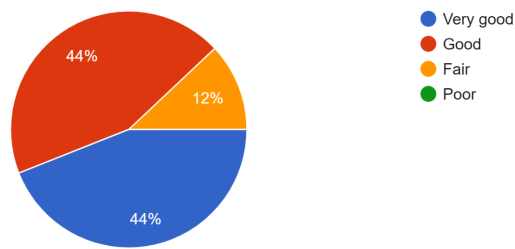
Thank you so much to all of the parents who filled in the survey to help our school improve communication with you all. In total, there were 25 responses. Below, I would like to share with you the main findings:

Do you feel that the communication from the school is timely?
25 responses



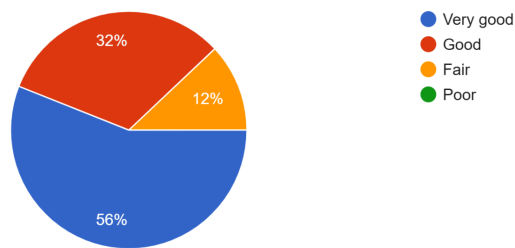
How would you rate the current level of communication from the school?

25 responses



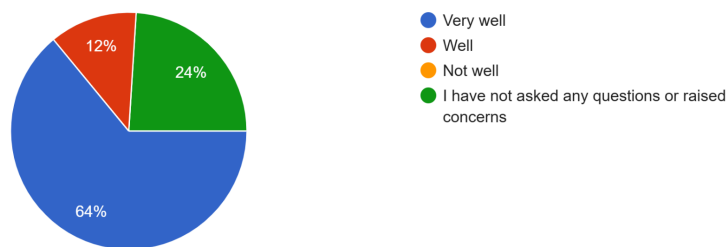
How clear is the information provided by the school?

25 responses



How well do you feel the school addresses your questions and concerns?

25 responses



The main findings of the survey are:

- Using one main method of communication - our school app. Sometimes EYFS/KS1 have used a mixture of Tapestry and the app to communicate which can be very confusing for parents (particularly if there is more than 1 child in the family).
I am going to discuss this with our staff and ask everyone to add information to the app as our main form of communication. Sometimes it is necessary to give out individual paper copy letters eg if only a small group are attending a sports event.
- Make better use of the calendar. This was previously good but has not been used as well lately.

Our staff will be given reminders to add any important dates onto this as soon as they know them.

- Give as much notice as possible. Sometimes news items can be too late - especially when there is a class prayer and liturgy.

I will ask our staff to keep the calendar up to date so you can see the events in advance. Unfortunately, some events that we get invited to (eg sport events) can be very last minute and our staff give out the information as soon as they receive it.

Changes to School Finishing Times for KS1 in September

During our recent Governors meeting, it was agreed that we need to change the start and finish times of our infant children. It is important that we stagger the timings of the school day to ease traffic congestion on Ostley Bank.

Here are the new timings which will come into effect in September:

Nursery/Reception

Nursery and Reception can be dropped off between 08:45-09:00 (registration is at 09:00 and children arriving after this time will be marked as late)

Children need to be picked up between 15:15 -15:30. This allows the opportunity for parents and teachers to pass on important information to each other when needed.

Year 1/Year 2

Start time 08:45

Our Year 1 and Year 2 children will need to arrive at school and line up outside their classroom door at 08:45. Your child will then be let in by their class teacher at 08:45. Please note that arriving after 08:45 will result in a late mark for Year 1 and Year 2 children.

Finish time 15:15

Our Year 1 and Year 2 children will finish at 15:15. However, if you have a child in both KS1 and KS2, you can pick up your Year 1 or Year 2 child at the later time of 15:25 and then go and pick up your KS2 child at 15:30. **Please note that this slightly later pick up only applies to families where they also have a child in KS2.**

KS2

There are no changes for children in KS2.

Start time for KS2 09:00

The classroom doors will open at 08:45 and registration will be at 09:00. Children arriving after 09:00 will be marked as late.

Finish Time for KS2 15:30

Dates which have been added to our calendar:

20/04/26 and 27/04/26 EYFS Parents Evening - information on the news section of the app

23/04/26 St George's Day - children to wear non-uniform and something red/white

22/05/26 **Sports Day** (am only) - more information to follow

15/05/26 Sponsored Colour Run - information on the app and paper copy of the sponsor form sent home

19/05/26 Y6 BAE Cyber Fairy Tales Workshop

19/05/26 10:15 Year 3 Prayer and Liturgy (they will be involved in leading our May Procession)

04/06/26 Y1/2 Brockhole Trip

07/06/26 First Holy Communion

30/06/26 Move-up Morning

03/07/26 Whole School end of year Mass 10:00

08/07/26 & 09/07/26 KS2 Show dates (more information below)

17/07/26 Year 6 Leavers' Assembly at 10:00

As always, please don't hesitate to contact school if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs R Porter