



November 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please find the results of the recent questionnaire on Catholic life at St Teresa's. 26 questionnaires were returned to school. Thank you to the parents and carers who returned these forms. The responses were unanimously positive. We especially appreciate the 100% 'strongly agree' and 'agree' answer to the question: 'The Catholic life of the school has a positive impact on relationships'. At St. Teresa's, we particularly strive to live out our mission statement and the Gospel values through being an inclusive school where everyone feels valued. We make a big effort to welcome all into our diverse school family. Below are the results with the responses made.

Parental Questionnaire Results Catholic Life (July 2019)

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
The mission statement is central to the life of the school	69% 18	27% 7			4% 1
The Catholic life of the school has a positive impact on relationships	65% 17	35% 9			
The school has a strong commitment to social justice	65% 17	27% 7			8% 2
My child feels a valued and welcomed by the school	69% 18	27% 7			4% 1
My family feels valued and welcomed by the school	69% 18	27% 7			4% 1
The school has strong links with the parish	73% 19	23% 6			4% 1
The school has strong links with the wider community	61% 16	35% 9			4% 1
Catholic life is well led in school	81% 21	19% 5			

What is good about the Catholic life at St. Teresa's Roman Catholic Primary School?

- The School has strong links with the Parish and Catholic life is well led in school.
- They learn children to be good
- Good because the Catholic life teaches respect within the school family.
- Part of feeling like a wider family
- Children are always involved and parents in Church. It is lovely to see everyone getting together
- Everyone is made to feel welcome, valued and accepted in this school. My Child loves doing the charity days and learning about the Guide Dogs this year.
- Everyone knows each other and supports each other. The staff are very helpful and always on hand to help in difficult situations.

How could the Catholic life of St. Teresa's Roman Catholic Primary School be improved?

- Ok as it is
- More involvement from the older children e.g. nativity shouldn't just be for KS1.
- More notice about upcoming events e.g. sports events at various places!



As a school, we will act on the constructive comments made. Some parents indicated that they did not know an answer to a particular question so hopefully the information below explains this.

Our Mission statement is central to our school life and accompanied the original letter which was sent out with this questionnaire. As part of their Collective Worship, on a weekly basis, children discuss how they can continue to carry out the school's Mission Statement and how it is relevant to their lives. There is a class book in which they record their thoughts and actions concerning this. Our social justice commitment is strong. Through the RE curriculum children learn all about the Universal Church and the work of CAFOD and the Mini Vinnies, led by Mrs Sutton, work tirelessly to ensure that the vulnerable and needy are supported through fund raising initiatives throughout the year.

Our links with the Parish are strong – we celebrate class masses and whole school masses, with all parishioners. For the last few years, the children have also helped out at the Parish Fayre. Football competitions organised within the Summer Fayre programme have also meant that the Parish Fayre attendance has risen and families enjoyed picnics together on the field whilst watching the football matches. We prepare the children for receiving the Sacraments of Reconciliation and the Sacrament of the Eucharist. Parishioners and families are also welcome to coffee mornings after school masses.

Our wider links include our commitment to supporting charities locally, nationally and globally such as: carol singing to raise money for St. Teresa's Hospice; collecting foodstuffs and toiletries for Darlington Foodbanks; raising money for CAFOD projects abroad following work completed by our local CAFOD representative; raising funds for the British Legion; supporting the Macmillan Cancer Support Charity; raising money for the Guide Dog association following a talk given by a local guide dog owner; and much more!

We have also have links with local schools through the transition programmes for our year six pupils across the town and through our links with Carmel Education Trust. In order to keep our children safe, we have links with local police community officers, fire officers and the school nurse team who are invited into school to talk to the children at various points of the year. Year six also take part in a safety carousel with other local schools. In recent years, our older children have accessed events organised by the NSPCC and Show Racism the Red Card. Children link up with neighbouring schools when we attend The Good Shepherd mass when we support St. Cuthbert's Care. The older children also attend diocesan events such as special Faith event masses and Youth Mission events. Our sporting links throughout Darlington are strong. We have school teams and groups of children compete regularly in town events. As ever, we always aim to further widen our links so that the children have a wide range of useful learning experiences throughout their time at St. Teresa's School.

Thank you once again for completing the questionnaire on Catholic Life, your comments are very much appreciated by the staff and governors of St. Teresa's.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Lindsay

Deputy Head Teacher