



THAKEHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL
Headteacher: Will McDonald
Operations Manager: Georgina Ritchie
Senior Teacher: Bex Stender
Inclusion Manager: Bex Stender
Rock Road
Storrington
West Sussex
RH20 3AA
Tel: 01903 740176
Email: office@thakehamps.co.uk
Web: www.thakehamps.co.uk

Wednesday 15th October 2025

Dear Families,

Re: you asked for it and we are doing it!

Just as I did last academic year, I thought now would be a good time to feed back about what you have been asking for and our progress with it. I think it is important that, as families, you can feel like you are able to contribute to school development. My hope is that this kind of communication enables you to see that we hear you. We genuinely value your input.

What you asked for: to look at the curriculum methodology in Key Stage 1

Parents in Wonder Class, whilst still wholly supportive of our teaching and provision, highlighted that some children were finding the transition from the free-flow continuous provision of Beatles to the formal learning of Wonder complex to process. After a careful period of research, trialling approaches and working with outside partners, we were able to roll out our new curriculum approach to Wonder Class last academic year. Now, children are engaged in a similar continuous provision environment to Beatles – and they absolutely love it! Feedback from the children is positive and the staff love the child-centred, humanistic but rigorous approach. We hope you do too. A reminder that you are welcome to sign up for a Wednesday drop-off slot to come observe it in action. Just contact the office!

What you asked for: to have further insight into what your children do at school

Last year, we trialled the use of Class Dojo in Wonder Class. It was a resounding success so come September, we rolled it out across the school. It gives a brilliant insight into all the daily activities from Beatles Class up to Franklin. Families have been commenting on the pictures and videos, getting involved with the joy of it and feeding back that it is a really positive thing to have. Thank you for helping us to introduce it.

What you asked for: more clubs

This is always going to be a tricky thing to organise in a small school (with limited pupil numbers). But, we have STEM club now operating alongside all the usual clubs. The pottery club on a Thursday is a particular highlight for me! I love seeing their creations develop.

What you asked for: enhanced communication between school and home

Communication is key! The more people feel informed, the safer they feel. I completely understand this. So, this academic year we have worked hard to introduce the following:

Courage • Ambition



Respect • Enjoyment



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- Class Dojo
 - More staff on duty at pick up and drop off
 - A Communications Protocol
 - A weekly message from the Head about key events coming up that week
 - A weekly debrief video from the Headteacher
 - And, we have more initiatives lined up to introduce that will be shared with you soon

Something that was asked for but we have not yet followed through on: School Uniform

Last academic year, we had a significant and large number of parents unhappy with the uniform. This was mostly related to the supplier, but many parents also commented that it would be nice to have a refresh of the uniform. We did begin an open consultation but decided to pause it due to the need to balance the consultation with managing a busy school life! Since then, we have not had any parents come forward with concerns about the uniform. But, if a significant proportion of you do, then we will of course see what we can do.

As always, if you have anything you would like to speak to us about, please do get in touch. We love hearing from you.

Kind regards,

Will

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