

Spring Summary – Here are our responses to your views so far. We will take time during the year to continue to consider your views and ideas, please see our responses below. Thank you for taking the time to share your views and for your continued support.

Let us know the good things:

In your opinion, what are the best things about Victoria Primary Academy?

	You Said:	Our Response
About communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Always someone on the playground you can talk to Weekly newsletter Kept up to date with what is happening with Parentmail Keeping me informed about everything Working hand in hand with parents Good communication from staff team Good contact with teacher Excellent receptionists 	<p>We were pleased to hear all the positive comments about communication. Our weekly newsletter, Parentmail, Website, letters, notice board and notices on doors are all ways we communicate with you.</p> <p>Please feel free to pop into reception or chat to a member of staff on the playground in the mornings if you have any questions or concerns.</p>
About Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school is very safe They look after the kids well Child security Good sized playground and classrooms My children are happy and feel secure Helps kids feel good and safe at school Care of injured children Keep children safe and not worried Safe environment Proper care 	<p>The safety of all our children is really important to us – we are glad you agree that we work hard to keep all the children safe.</p>
About learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attitude and work ethic Learning is tailored to child Focus on individual needs 	<p>Your children work hard every day, thank you for supporting us to do this. Your support with homework, getting the children</p>

	<p>PE Maths English Swimming lessons Level of education has improved a lot Children are supported educationally Interesting lessons My children are learning The support that Y6 get for their SATs Handwriting lessons Good progress Good teaching techniques</p>	<p>here on time, dressed in their uniform and ready for the day ahead is always much appreciated. Thank you!</p>
<p>About the school</p>	<p>School shows consistent improvement Good management Well organised This is a good school Using digital platforms Lovely new resources Friendly and always feel welcome Part of Hatton Organisation Friendly staff I think Victoria School is the best! Great facilities Hands on Guiding children in values Diverse school – teaching my child to build an understanding of a wide range of people PTA events –nice to get involved with the school It is spot on with a lot of things the school does After school cookery classes After school clubs</p>	<p>We are very proud of our multicultural school too. The staff team work tirelessly to make improvements and we are pleased that you feel welcome. We will continue to strive to make improvements for your children.</p>

	<p>Good reception Fundraising to improve school experience Multicultural Lots of different cultures, people from different countries and backgrounds Environment clean and open</p>	
<p>About the adult team</p>	<p>Teachers are amazing Care and quality of teachers Teachers in reception Approachable staff Experienced staff Feel welcome Happy staff Professional All situations are sorted out Teachers are always there to help Kind, sympathetic teachers Support and understanding about situations at home Teachers go above and beyond for the children The SENCO is great and helps closely with us</p>	<p>All the adults at Victoria work incredibly hard and we were pleased to see that this is recognised by so many parents. Thank you!</p>
<p>About your child</p>	<p>Learning English fast when coming from other countries Discipline Equality for all children Happy child Love your efforts in changing the lives of pupils to become responsible and especially with your values Helping to counteract the stress of SATs Interactive for children Visible improvements in learning Homework Performances so the children can develop themselves Children cooperate</p>	<p>Victoria is the school is because of your children, we are proud to see each and every one of them progress and grow during their primary journey with us. Victoria children are the best!</p>

Help us to decide what needs to change:

Is there anything in particular that you'd change about Victoria Primary Academy?

	You Said:	Our Response
Many parents said they wouldn't change anything at all!		
About behaviour	Actively using/following the school behaviour policy to ensure incidents do not occur frequently The way you deal with bullying could be better	Our Academy Behaviour Policy is followed for all children, we continue to support children to make the right choices, this is an important part of their education at Primary School. We do not tolerate bullying, we have a clear policy and always deal with all concerns quickly.
About communication	No need for paper newsletters as well as emails (cost efficient) Better communication with parents, have a website Lack of communication More meetings with teachers, this age child don't share much at home More time given on upcoming events	We strive to ensure our communication with parents is as good as it can be. We have a weekly Newsletter, Website, letters home, notice board, notices on doors/windows and Parentmail. If you don't receive the Newsletter weekly by Parentmail please call in at the office to get your account sorted out. The PTA Facebook page is another great way to stay in touch. We try to give as much notice as we can, upcoming events are on the front page of the newsletter. We will continue to try hard to give you more notice.
About classes	More maths equipment Make extra teaching groups or learning after school Parent child reading sessions Permanent class teachers	We recognise how disruptive it can be when a teacher leaves in the middle of a year, when this happens we work hard to ensure there is good transition for the children and support if they need it. Sometimes teachers chose to move to other settings and this is not within our control unfortunately. Recruitment and retention is one of our priorities.
About timings	Earlier start to the day Classes come out late and this makes it hard to collect other children	Classes should not be late out – we apologise for this and will try to do better!
About health and safety	Change the rules about the car park and let us drop the kids in the car	The car park is shared by three schools and therefore it is not safe for parents to park here, there is not enough space and the safety of the children is our first priority. We know it is

	<p>Adults blocking the corridor at the beginning and end of the day Lock the gate to Leys Road Get a Lolly Pop Lady Crowding by parents at drop off not safe for children Reporting all incidents to parents</p>	<p>hard to find places to park near school, please try to walk whenever possible, or park further away and walk in. Remember KS2 children can walk to school on their own so could be dropped safely away from school to walk in on their own. We have a different system for children entering by the main corridor now – this is working well, thank you for staying at the bottom of the steps with your children. Adults stand in the doorway to ensure children arrive safely and at the end of the day to ensure children go to the correct adults – we will try not to block the way! We would love to have a Lolly Pop Lady, unfortunately the county are not training anymore, so we can't have one sadly. We ask that all parents drive and park safely and legally, especially on Leys Road. Parents from all three schools use the Leys Road gate during the day, the nursery needs access throughout the day, so it would not be practical to have it locked.</p>
<p>About the curriculum</p>	<p>Learning can be a lot more fun Excursions of 3 to 4 days Field trips More time for sports More opportunity to see my child's work Tell parents the syllabus so we can help at home Weekly teaching plan for parents Homework – some children find it hard to do More special curriculum days Help children to be more active Assemblies about how to treat each other and ways to act</p>	<p>Many parents would like more trips out of school and experience days, we are working hard on this. Each year group plans trips and special days to fit in with their learning. However, these days are expensive so we need to ask parents for a voluntary contribution towards the costs – we can't do this without your help! As well as PE lessons the children take part in Fitter Future – ask your child about this. We also have skipping and other physical activities on the playground for the children to take part in. We agree, it is really important for children to stay active during the day. We have medium term planning and termly learning journeys on the website – these let you know what your child will be learning. Home learning also links closely with learning in school. If you need help with home learning please come and ask your child's class teacher, they will be very willing to help. Our assemblies always link to our Academy Values and we have lessons in class linked to values and behaviour (PSHE).</p>
<p>About playtimes and lunchtimes</p>	<p>Astroturf on the playground We would like to have more things outside Canopy needed when raining</p>	<p>We reviewed our lunchtime supervision, the playground is now separated into zones with adults in each area to supervise. This seems to be going well and ensures that children can always find an adult to help if needed. When it rains the children don't go out to play. At the beginning of the day we open the doors early when it is raining heavily to get everyone in quick and you home/work quickly too.</p>

	Lunchtime supervision needs to be reviewed so children can always find an adult	We have much more equipment outside this year. Our new quiet area has lots of resources too. Thank you to the PTA for raising money to support with the purchase of this new outdoor equipment.
About uniform	<p>More no uniform days</p> <p>School is too restrictive about style of clothes and shoes</p> <p>Good quality jumpers to be given by the school</p> <p>Free uniform</p> <p>Closer eye on jumpers, box in classroom for them to keep them in</p>	<p>Uniform is a really important part of school, it gives children a sense of identity and belonging and stops the hassle of what to wear!</p> <p>We can't afford to give away free uniform – but we do have a great selection of nearly new uniform for purchase at very low prices, please ask in the office for details. If you have uniform your child has outgrown, please consider donating it to our nearly new shop.</p> <p>We know how annoying it is when children lose their jumpers etc. Staff try very hard to reunite children with their belongings and we give constant reminders about looking after their possessions. Please help by labelling everything!</p>
Other	<p>Have a breakfast club</p> <p>New principal</p> <p>More clubs</p> <p>Better variety of food</p> <p>Be nice to have a swimming pool at school</p>	<p>We have in the past run a breakfast club, but unfortunately not enough children came and we couldn't afford to keep running it. Only a few parents mentioned this on their forms, if more parents mention this we could carry out a survey to see what interest there would be. Our after school clubs have been really popular this year. We know parents would like more and we will do our best.</p> <p>We would love to have a swimming pool at Victoria – there isn't enough money for this! But it would be great wouldn't it!</p>

Help us to plan for the future of Victoria Primary Academy:

What would you like us to develop over the next three to five years?

	You Said:	Our Response
<p>Many parents said they wouldn't change anything at all! We should just keep doing what we are doing. And we will do this, but we also try hard to make improvements each year.</p>		
About learning	<p>More musical instruments</p> <p>More help for lower learners</p> <p>Better and highly qualified teaching assistants</p>	<p>Musical education is really important to us at Victoria. Victoria is a Music Mark School through Northamptonshire Performing Arts Trust in recognition of our work with music in education. Children sing every week in our singing assemblies and in class. We have a varied selection of tuned and untuned instruments for children to use in music lessons too. Year three children</p>

		<p>learn to play a stringed instrument. Year four children sing at The Castle Theatre and at Hatton Academies Trust Christmas event. Year five children learn to play a brass or woodwind instrument. Year six take part in a song writing project and they record their own songs onto CD. There are also opportunities for paid lessons, please ask at the office for more details.</p> <p>All children are supported with their learning, whatever their starting points. Some children have special needs and they are given additional support with their learning and behaviour to ensure they make good progress. If you are worried your child may have special needs please speak to their class teacher or Mr Pearson.</p> <p>Our teaching assistants are valuable and experienced members of the teaching team, they receive training and join us on our 5 whole school training days each year. We are lucky to have such a great team of teaching assistants at Victoria.</p>
About home learning	<p>Less home learning</p> <p>Home learning to complete online</p>	<p>If you are concerned that your child isn't able to complete all the home learning on time please speak to their teacher, we can help you to support at home and we can suggest ways to speed things up. We also recognise sometimes things happen at home and there isn't time for home learning – please let us know.</p> <p>Our times table app can be done at home – ask for your child's login details if they don't have it. We like the idea of more online learning; we are currently looking at the possibility of an online reading system.</p>
About the school day	<p>Longer school day</p> <p>Kids to have own lockers</p> <p>Exit for year 3 is a squeeze</p> <p>Warm meals free for all children in the colder months</p>	<p>We feel the school day is already long enough for children, they work hard all day and need to concentrate hard!</p> <p>All children have their own drawer and peg in school. Encourage your children to only bring the things they need to school - we provide all pencils, pens, rulers, books etc so there is no need for children to bring their own things.</p> <p>Yes, Year Three exit is indeed a squeeze. There are 3 classrooms upstairs, only two classes come out of the main door at the end of the day. The year two class come into the main building and out of one of the side doors to try and help this. Getting the children out safely and quickly is not easy – there aren't doors for every room unfortunately. We will continue to review how children exit at the end of the day and improve things further if we can.</p> <p>Unfortunately, the school budget does not stretch to free meals for all children, infant aged children have access to universal free school meals and some families are eligible for free school meals. If you are concerned about feeding your child or think you may be entitled to free school meals, please speak to one of our inclusion officers. There is support available.</p>

About communication	Opportunity to communicate in home language Ability to fill in forms online Letters sent with kids could be sent by email Better website	Did you know our website has a translation function on it? We support home language communication wherever we can, we do have some bilingual members of staff, but with 44 different languages spoken we can't do this for every family unfortunately. All staff are used to communicating with parents who speak another language, please don't be afraid to pop in, we are here to help. We will look at how we can send more letters by Parentmail, this does make sense, thank you. Our website is updated regularly, it has our policies, curriculum, safeguarding information newsletters and much more on there. At the moment we don't have a system for filling in forms online, this is something we need to look into.
About the environment	A grass area Safe crossing on Eastfield Road	It would be lovely if we had space for a grass area, Rowan Gate kindly allow us to use their grassed area in the summer months. We also use Hatton Field for some events too, such as the annual HAT fun run. Road safety is really important, especially as many of our children walk to school on their own. If you are concerned about safety on roads, please contact the county council to express your concerns or approach a member of the PTA – working together parents can make changes!
About staffing	PE staff Retain good teaching staff and keep staffing levels up	All our teaching staff are trained in PE, we do use specialist coaches for some lessons and after school clubs too. Retaining good teaching staff is one of our priorities too – we take recruitment very seriously and always work hard to employ the best people for your children. At Victoria we have more than the national average number of teaching assistants because we believe they enhance the learning opportunities we can offer your children.
About PE and sport	More sports like cricket Swimming lessons earlier More competitive sport	We use our Sports Funding each year to enhance sports provision. Our Sports Premium plan is on the website, have a look and see what is planned for this year. The children are really enjoying the skipping on the playground, they are getting very good!
Other	To keep the current development trend	Thank you! We will certainly strive to do this.

Thank You for your continued support of Victoria Primary Academy