

July 2023 Newsletter



Fleecefield children are so passionate about environmental issues that they wrote to our local MP, Kate Osamor, not only did she write back but she also took up their issues with the Secretary for State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, The Right Honourable Dr Therese Coffey MP. Ms Osamor visited the school to meet with UKS2 to talk to them about her role and work in the community.

'Thrive and Achieve Together'

It is hard to believe that I am coming to the end of my first year as CEO of Children First. I can honestly say that it has been a pleasure getting to know the schools and the children and staff in them. I must also thank the Central Team for their hard work behind the scenes and support to help me get up to speed with all things.

Working in schools is a relentless and exhausting job but the difference you make to the lives of children is so significant and for me has always made it worth it.

I wish you all a very happy and relaxing break over the summer and I hope, as I'm sure we all do, that the new academic year brings yet more successes to our schools and our children.

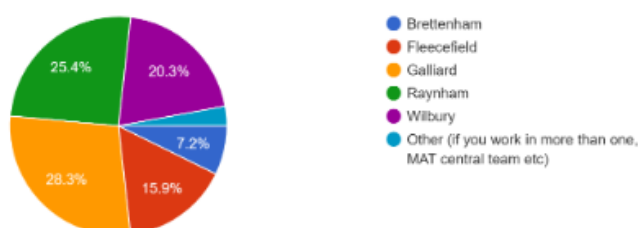
I look forward to seeing you all in September

Jane Flynn

Staff Survey

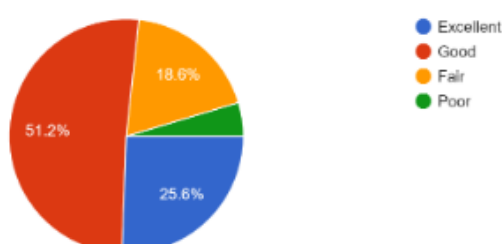
Thank you again to those of you who completed the staff survey. The HT Board are working with me on the development of our 'People Strategy'. A people strategy is an organisation's approach to recruiting, retaining, training and engaging its workforce. Here are some of the results that we will be discussing and working to take on board as we move forward.

Which school do you work in?
138 responses



We know that our staff are our greatest asset and we will be looking at how we engage with more of you as we work on our strategy.

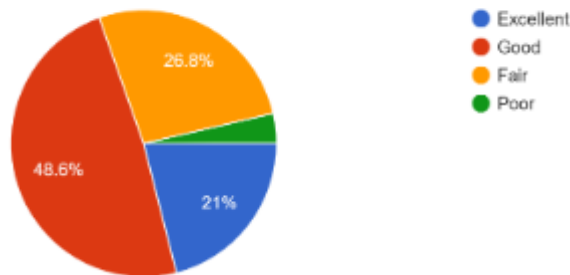
If you are in your first 12 months in post, how would you rate your induction process?
43 responses



We want to ensure that we are the best employer we can be, right from recruitment, induction and onwards through our processes and our professional development.

How would you rate the quality of professional development at your school?

138 responses

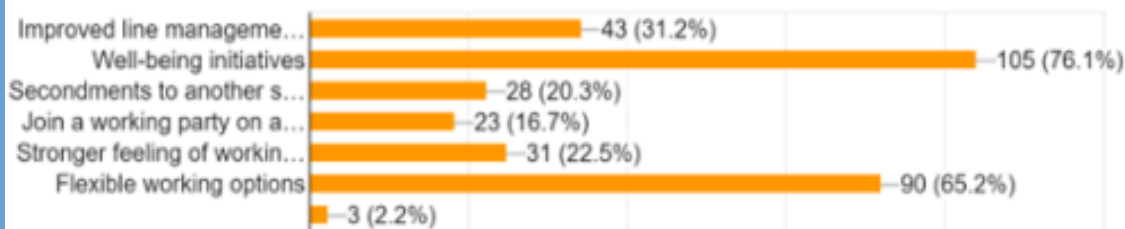


We think that all staff should feel that their professional development is important to us and will be drawing up clear routes for development.

We want to use your ideas, where we can, to make sure that we retain our best staff.

Retention - what could the trust/school do in order to ensure high retention rates for current members of staff? Choose as many of the options...you wish, and add as many as you like at the end.

138 responses



Out and about with Children First



34 children from Raynham took part in the Mini London Marathon. Well done to them.

Children from Reception at Galiard enjoyed a day out at the Zoo.



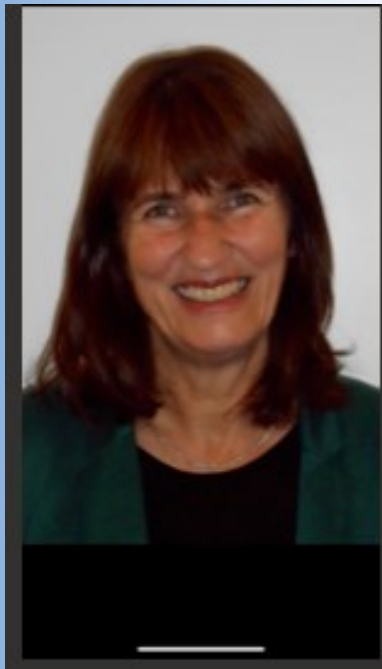
Staff learning all about edible gardens.



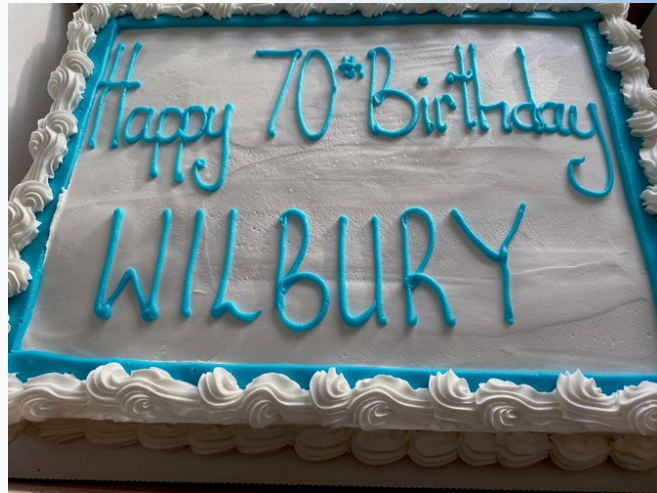
Brettenham Borough Athletics Champion



A huge congratulations to all the children at Brettenham that competed in the borough athletics competition at Lea Valley Athletics Centre. We are extremely proud of them for making it the second year in a row to be borough champions!



Huge congratulations to our former CEO Kate Turnpenney, recognised for Services to Education in the King's Birthday Honours. Kate's long career, championing the children of Edmonton, is exceptional and the MBE very well deserved.



Wilbury Primary have been celebrating a special birthday this week. Wilbury is 70 years old. They held a wonderful cultural celebration to mark the event and of course there was cake.



OFSTED Inspections

There has been a flurry of inspections this term. Wilbury were first in April and were delighted to receive a Good judgement with some Outstanding outcomes in Behaviour and Attitudes and Early Years.

Raynham were next in May. Raynham had an ungraded inspection, meaning grades couldn't change but the report speaks of a school that is Good in all areas with some really positive comments made about the work being done.

Galliard's inspection took place last week and so the report is not yet finalised. I am expecting to see another report that is strong and shows how well our schools are doing.

OFSTED is not an easy process and so I want to thank you all again for the work that goes into it. Middle leaders in particular have an important role to play in their discussions about curriculum design, and they have shone for us in all schools inspected and in HEP reviews that have taken place this year.

I know that Fleecefield and Brettenham wait for their inspections with inevitable levels of anxiety. I have every confidence that the strong work being led by leaders across the school and Trust on Curriculum, Pedagogy and Safeguarding in particular, will be evidenced in these two schools too, when their time comes.