



St Polycarp's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs. P.M. Best B.Ed M.A. NPQH

Governors' Update

2nd April 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we journey through lent in our busy lives towards that amazing time of Easter, I think it is important to take a pause and reflect on all the things that have happened at the school in the past couple of months.

The biggest news is of course the incredible success of the school in the OFSTED inspection, achieving outstanding in every category. To anyone who is not familiar with the inspection of education it might just be tempting to say, well you were outstanding before and you are outstanding now – well done. But ... there is a lot more to this. The approach to inspections change regularly and in the past years few outstanding schools are re-inspected and judged to be outstanding. This result really is an incredible achievement.

We have all been celebrating this success and are delighted to have external validation that the school is just as amazing as we all know it is. This success is only possible because of the incredible work that goes on each day within the school. We are blessed to have staff who are dedicated, thoughtful, curious, kind, and who get to know every child in their care. By adhering to a clear vision, monitoring relentlessly and supporting every child we can ensure that every child receives the best education possible. I am so proud of the staff and so delighted that our school truly lives out our Catholic faith each and every day. It is important to also thank you - our community. Every week parents, grandparents, neighbours and of course Fr Simon help the school in so many ways. It is because of our community that we have been able to achieve so much and I want to say thank you to everyone who helps the school.

Earlier in the term we were delighted to announce that Mr Peebles will be taking over from Mrs Best as the headteacher in September, when Mrs Best moves on to her new role. It is going to be a challenge to take over from such a talented and dedicated headteacher. We know that Mr Peebles will be an amazing head. Mr Peebles has worked closely with the governors for some years and we are delighted that he will be stepping up to lead the school. We will of course organise a celebration for Mrs Best during the summer term to thank her for the incredible work that she has done as headteacher and her unwavering commitment to excellence. So much of what the school leaders do is only visible to a few people. The governors get to see some of the hard work that goes into planning and



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reviewing progress, ensuring that the school continues to be fully staffed and nipping issues in the bud. Being a school leader is a difficult job. I am deeply grateful to all the parents who take the time to say thank you to the school leaders and staff. It is really appreciated.

Parents Survey

In the previous newsletter I promised to publish the outcome from the autumn survey. Thank you so much to all parents who completed this. The school leaders and governors have reviewed all comments and we will update you on the actions from this survey in the summer newsletter.



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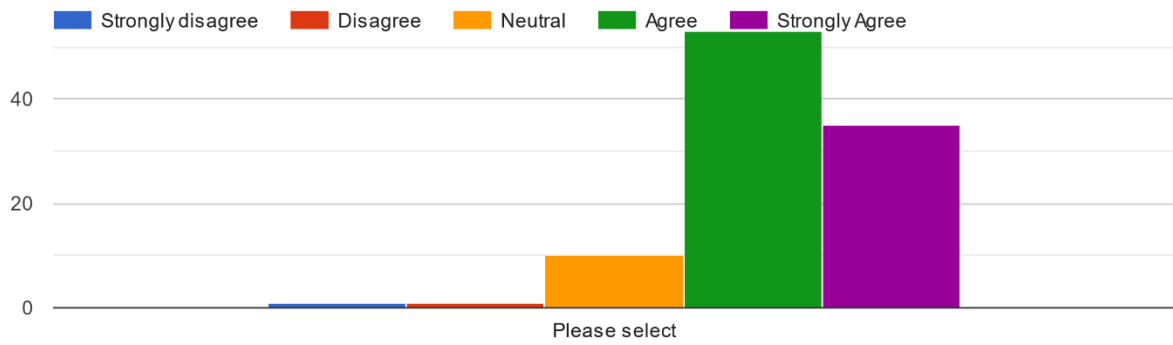




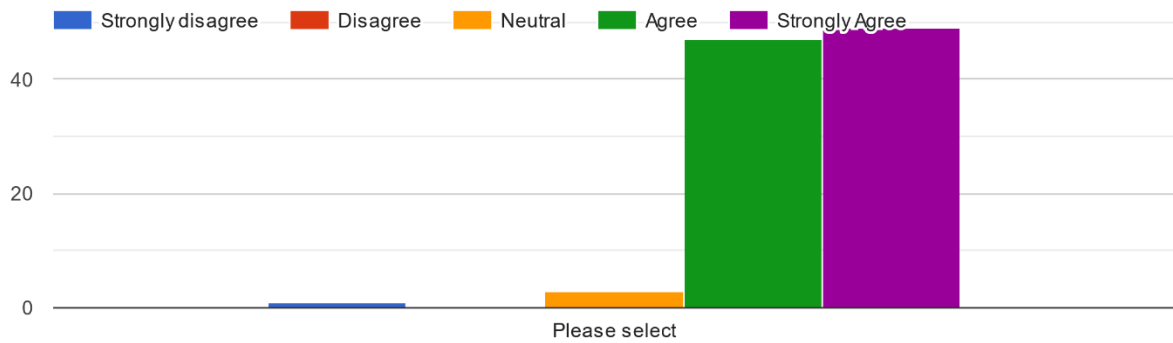
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My child is making good progress at this school



My child feels safe at this school

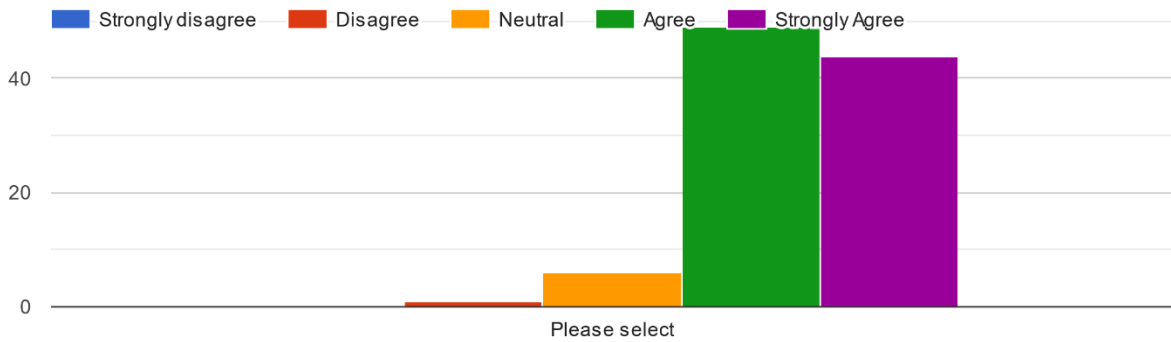




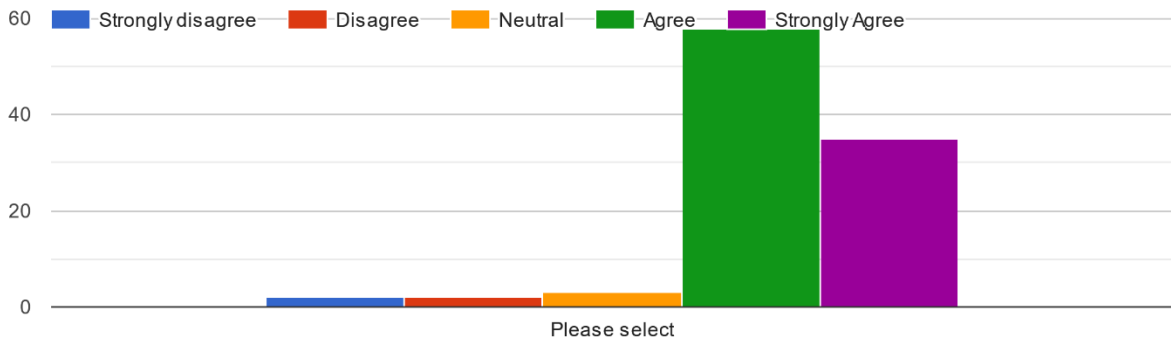
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My child is happy at this school



My child is well looked after at this school and their emotional and physical well being are taken care of

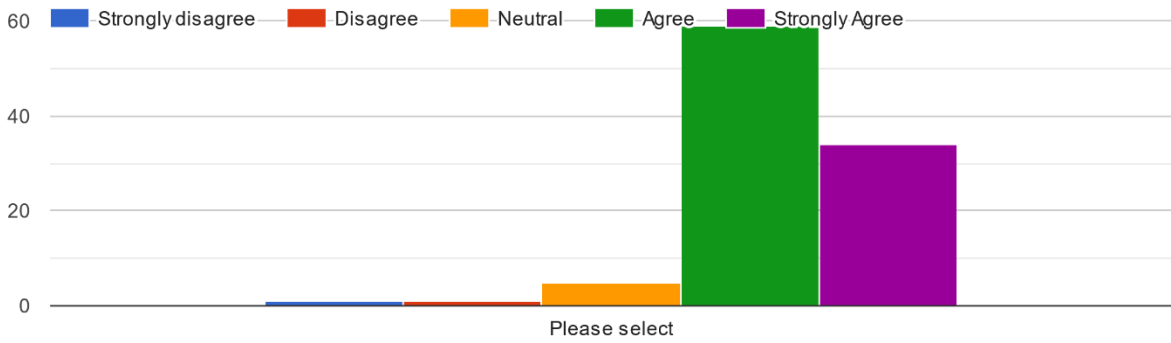




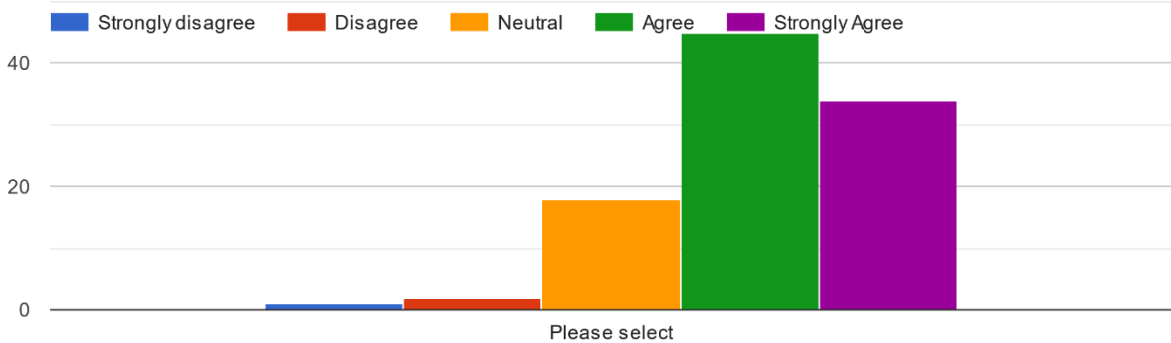
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The school promotes the highest standards of behaviour which is clear to all



The school communicates well with me

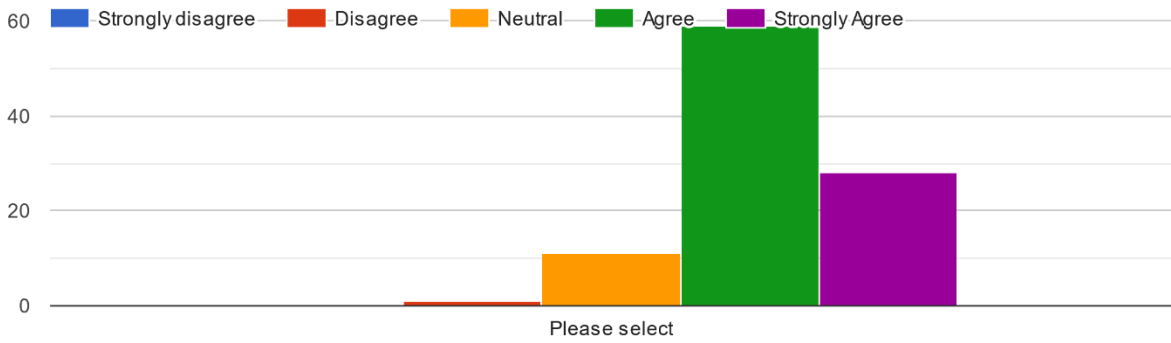




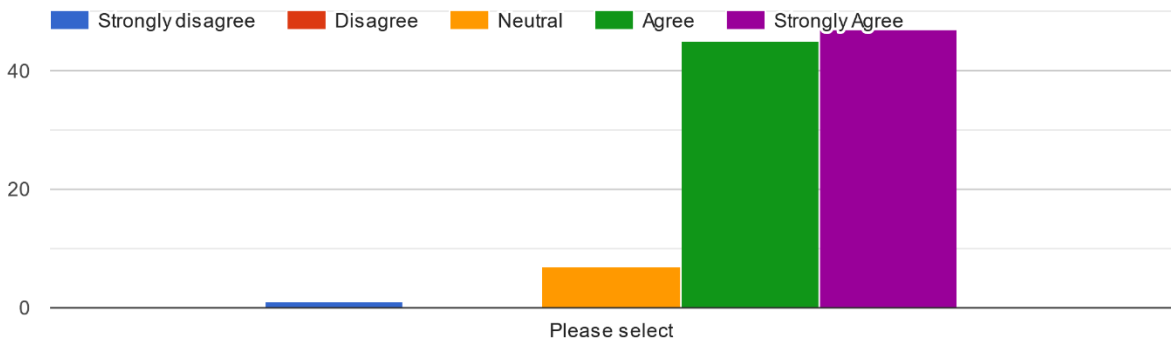
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The school promotes close partnership with families, parishes and local communities



I am able to approach my child's teacher or Mrs Best if I have any questions or difficulties

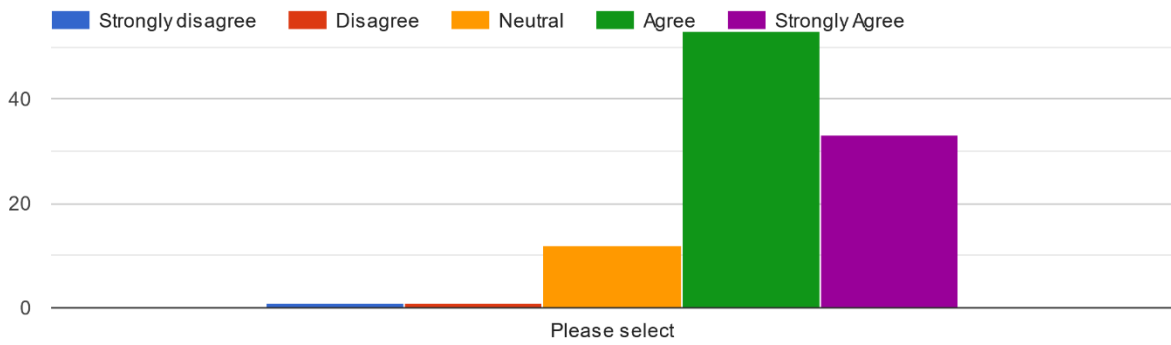




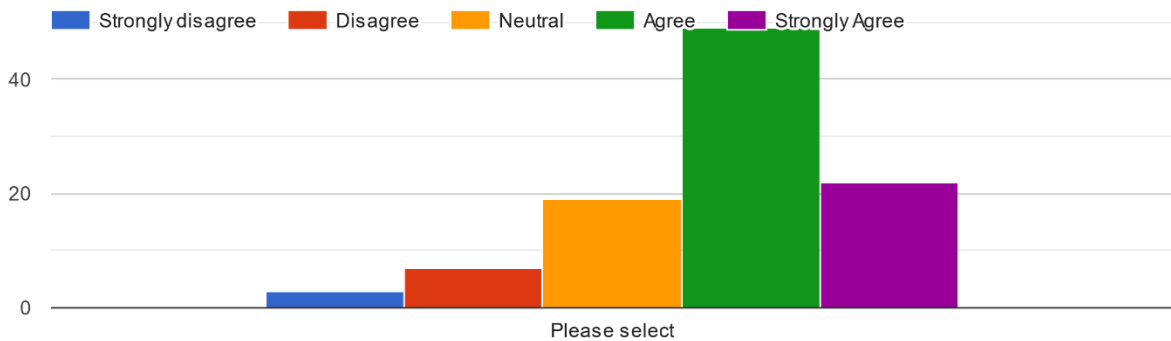
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I feel that any issues raised with the school are addressed



I am happy with the level of feedback that I get on my child's progress at school

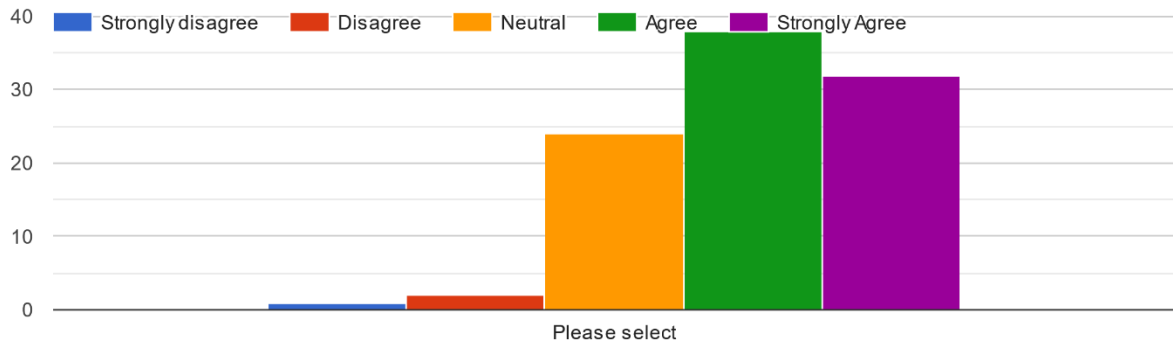




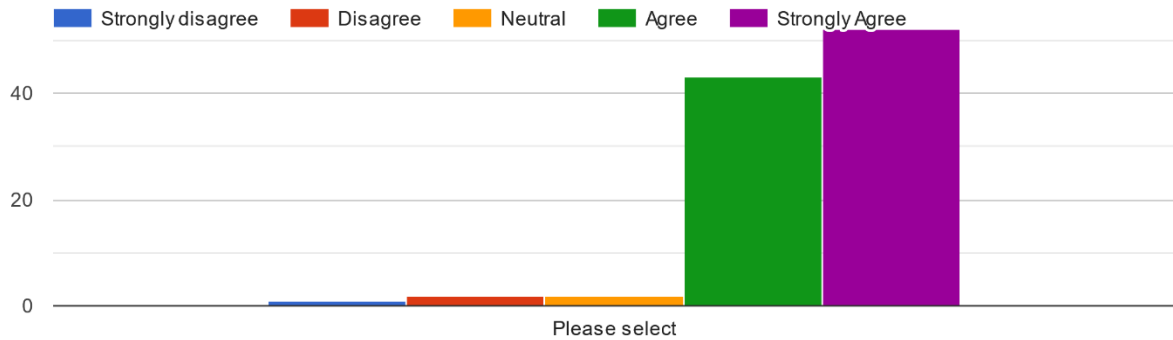
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The Hive (before and after school club) meets the needs of my family



I would highly recommend St Polycarp's School to a family who are new to the area



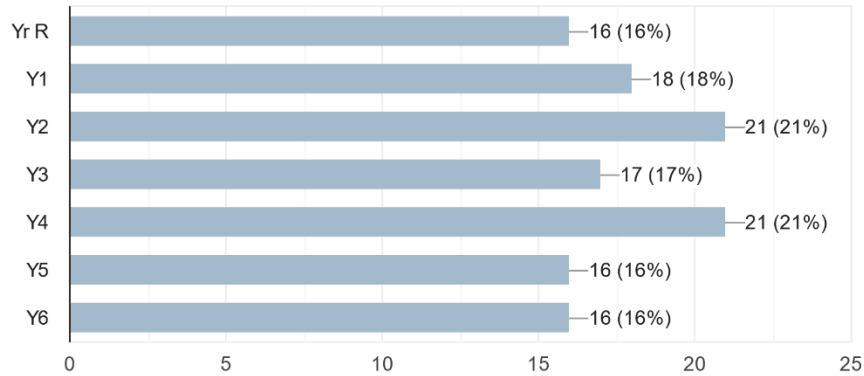


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Which school year is your child in?

100 responses



As this term draws to a close, I wish you a happy and peaceful Easter. I hope that you will be able to enjoy a more peaceful and relaxed time with your family during the holiday.

With every good wish for you and all your family,

Martin Parr

Martin Parr
Chair of Governors