



The Wee Friday Note

Friday 12th November 2021



**“I’ll wear a little poppy, as red as red can be,
to show that I remember, those who fought for me.”**

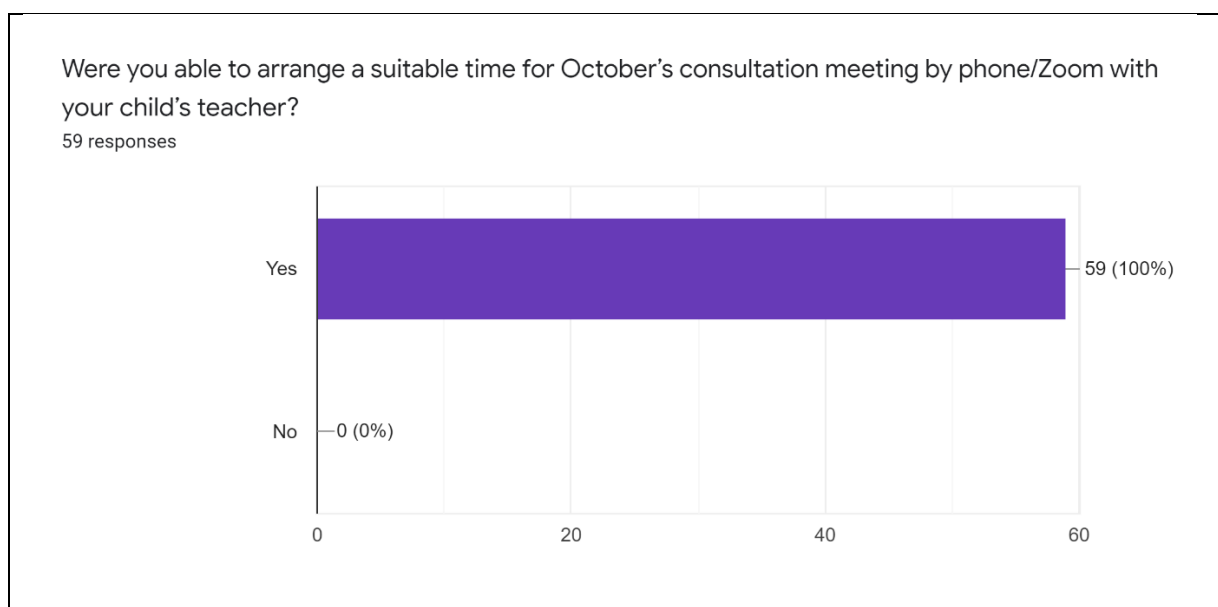
1. **Early school closure notice** – on Friday 26th November, school will close at 1pm for all pupils.

2. CHRISTMAS 2021 IN SCHOOL

Carols Around the Tree Christmas Celebration – always determined not to let Covid ‘steal Christmas’ like the Grinch it is, Cregagh Primary School is planning to have a Christmas celebration on Wednesday 15th December accompanied by Downshire Brass Band (Belfast). This event will be held outside in the school grounds (so wear your hat, scarves and gloves) from 7-8pm. Some of our older pupils will be taking part, helping us prepare for the Christmas season ahead. This will be a ticketed event (not open to the general public). Each school family will get two adult tickets as well as tickets for any children who attend Cregagh Primary or Cregagh Preschool. As it’s an outdoor event in December with loud noises (brass band) this event is not suitable for babies or very young children.

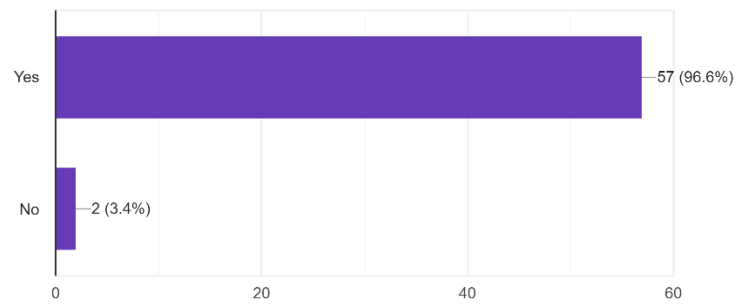
P1-3 Nativity and P4-7 Carol Service – as explained on last week’s Friday Note, this year’s Nativity and Carol Service is going ahead for the children but they will be filmed and these events will be premiered on two different nights for families to watch together at home. The recordings will then be added to our school’s *YouTube* channel to be watched at any time. Parents will also be given a special link that they can share with relatives. While a ‘live’ event could go off just fine, there’s still too much of a risk that children, parents and staff could spread/catch Covid in packed out spaces such as Church halls. We want to protect ‘Christmas’ for everybody and don’t want to take unnecessary risks – even though we wish things could be different ☹

3. **Parent-Teacher Interviews Survey Results (October’s interviews)** – 59 families responded.



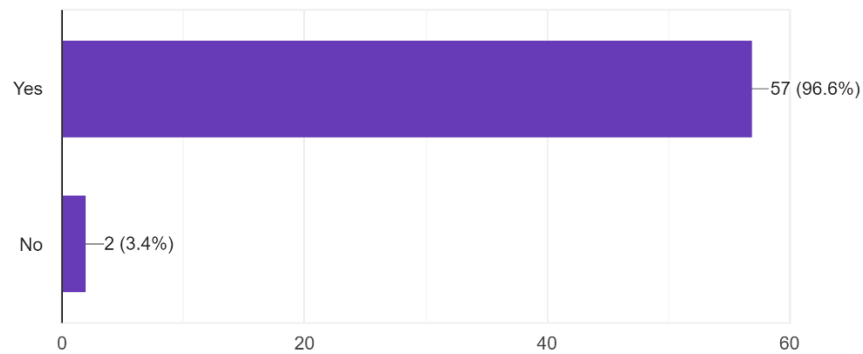
Did you find the discussion with the teacher(s) useful?

59 responses



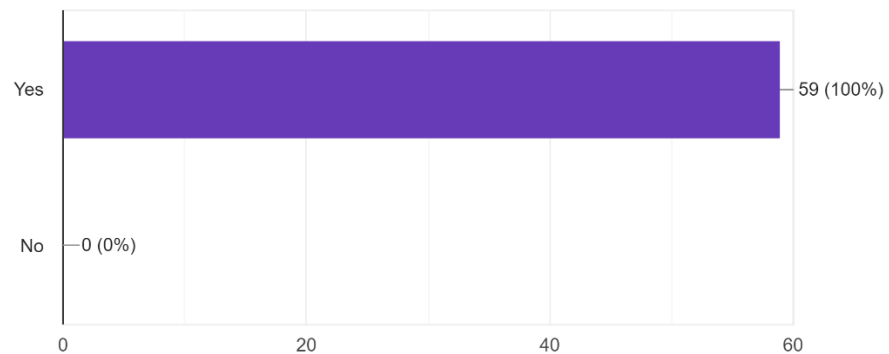
Do you feel you learned an adequate amount about how your child is doing in school at present?

59 responses



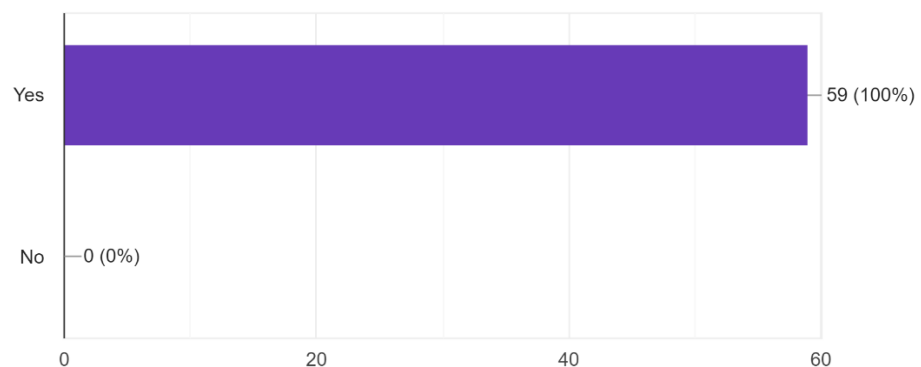
Were you given opportunity to ask the teacher(s) questions about your child's learning?

59 responses



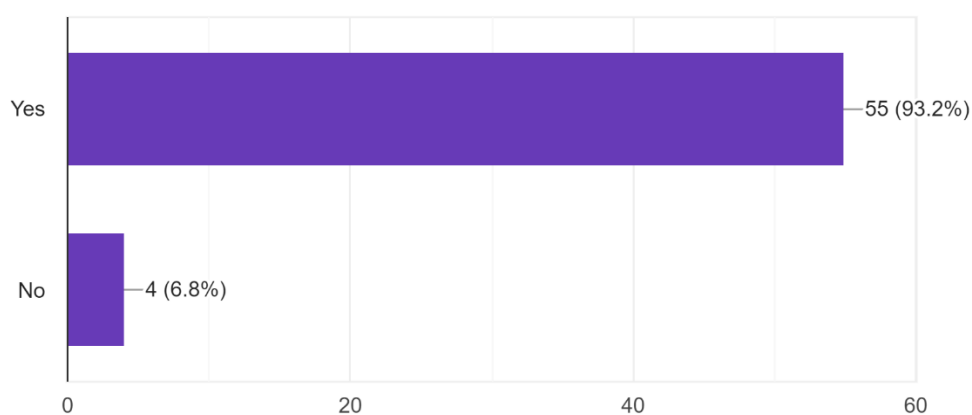
This was the 2nd opportunity this term to interact directly with your child's teacher (Meet the Teacher in September was the first). Do you think these 2 meetings are sufficient for the first term?

59 responses



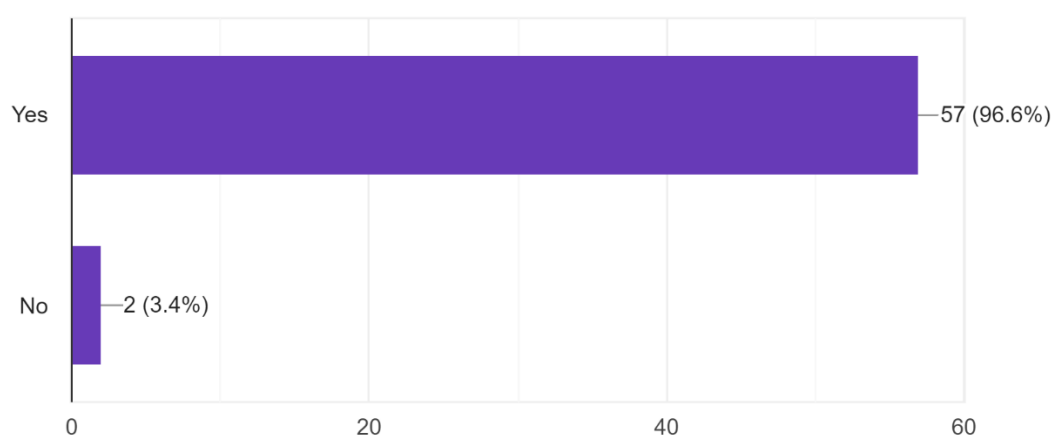
We're you given any ideas by the teacher(s) on how you can help your child's learning?

59 responses



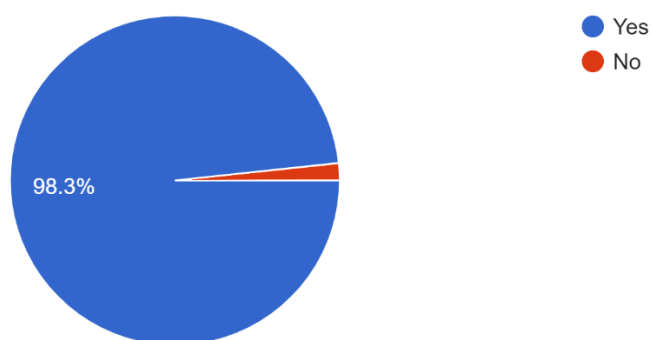
In general, do you as a parent feel the staff at Cregagh Primary School are easy to talk to when you need to?

59 responses



Bearing in mind the disruption of the last 2 years due to the Covid pandemic, have you been satisfied (overall) with the levels of contact and ...to your child and family by Cregagh Primary School?

59 responses



Do you have any further general comments about our school that you would like to share with us?

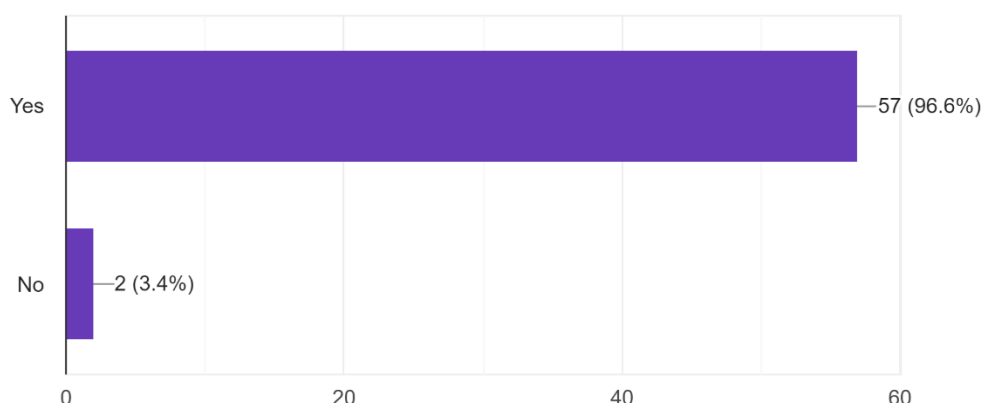
22 responses

- A really warm welcoming school. We felt that both teachers really knew both of our children even though the meeting took place only a few weeks after the start of term. There is a strong sense of everyone at the school wanting the best for all the children, whatever that may mean for each particular child. Thank you.
- I would appreciate a full school report including scores /grades for all subjects. I feel when I approach class teacher with a general query or concern it is taken personally which is not the case.
- Just that it's the best school and amazing teachers
- Amazing school and teachers
- Great school, lovely teachers
- Mr Higginson deserves a medal for his chats on lockdown and [REDACTED] has really settled and is enjoying [REDACTED] P6 class with Mr Irwin
- I find the staff at Cregagh PS have been excellent over the past 2 years and I am proud my daughter goes there
- Teachers should be open and honest at interviews and on school reports. Give a child's scores and overview and then some context e.g. class averages. This would save a lot of confusion for parents. It is fantastic to hear how kind and helpful your child is but would be even better to get some clear insight to their learning and maybe suggestions how parents could help at home. I am very thankful for learning support this year! [REDACTED] I know the high standards the school and principal would want every child and parent. I have been shocked and at times disappointed with our experience at Cregagh Primary over the last few years.
- Miss McKendry has been amazing [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] very happy to go to school every day which says a lot 😊
- In general I am sure this school is able to give a good teaching
- If Cregagh Primary School was a person it would be someone with amazing intelligence, a huge heart and masses of great personality! My son [REDACTED] loves his time there much the same as I did myself at the same school many years ago! The spirit carries on!
- My child seems to enjoy Cregagh Primary School
- Brilliant school and super teachers all very nice and friendly!
- A really warm welcoming school. We felt that both teachers really knew both of our children even though the meeting took place only a few weeks after the start of term. There is a strong sense of everyone at the school wanting the best for all the children, whatever that may mean for each particular child. Thank you.
- Brilliant school and amazing teachers/staff
- Excellent support as always from teaching staff and in fact all staff for both child and family alike. Many Thanks
- Communication and support throughout the Covid pandemic and behind has been exceptional. My child has continued to excel in school and this is down to the hard work and effort put in by her teachers. Thank you!

5 other responses were the word "No" or "No thanks"

Lastly, would you recommend Cregagh Primary School to a friend or neighbour?

59 responses



Parent-Teacher Interviews Survey Results – Principal’s Comment

On behalf of my staff I want to thank all parents for all their comments. All the comments received have been included although I have redacted any names that might identify the contributor. It would be dishonest not to include all comments. The stand-out results for me are that 96.6% of parents feel that they can talk to school staff; over 98.3% were happy with the levels of support and contact over the Covid pandemic; and that 96.2% would recommend our school to a friend or neighbour. Thank you for these encouragements, especially appreciated as we emerge from the most difficult two school years in living memory.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 18 th November	Flu vaccination for pupils (nasal spray) by school nursing team, HSCT
Friday 19 th November	PJs for Pudsey & <i>Afternoon at the Movies</i> mini fundraiser. £1.50 per pupil.
Friday 26 th November	School closes at 1pm for all pupils (dinners and lunches as normal)
Wednesday 15 th December	Carols Around the Tree Christmas Celebration, 7-8pm. Hot drinks & Christmas treats on sale – proceeds to school fund.
Thursday 16 th December	P4-7 Pantomime at the Waterfront Hall
Monday 20 th December	P1-3 visit to Strand Cinema for Christmas movie
Tuesday 21 December	Christmas Magic Show for each class with <i>The Amazing Aldo</i>
Wednesday 22 nd December	Last day of first <u>full</u> term. 12noon finish (no dinners or lunches)
Thursday 23rd December- Wednesday 5th January 2022	Christmas holidays (10 school days inclusive)
Thursday 6 th January 2022	New spring term begins