

November 2015 Pupil Interviews (sample of pupils: 18 school councillors)

Ages 5-6 Ages 7-8 Ages 9-10

1. What kind of lessons do you enjoy the most?

- Maths
- P.E. and ICT - chrome books, and learning new things, learning new gymnast moves
- ICT and Maths/Literacy

- Arty, messy, dirty, fun
- Maths ladders, fun, new ways
- Maths, Forest Schools, learn how to make stuff and nature (later question response): Art we get to do art and crafts, get messy but get to do fun things. Maths - learn quite a bit

- Science because we get to do fun experiments. Art and Literacy - art runs through family and enjoy writing stories
- Literacy because we do Art, well not Art, drama/acting. Art because we do drawing and painting
- Theme because we learn all cool subjects. Forest Schools because you get to do different activities and things

2. What kind of lessons do you learn the most in?

- Maths, lots of measuring
- Maths - quite a lot to do in maths, and literacy kind of, quite busy doing measuring
- Maths, Literacy - quite fun on Fridays as we get to do stories about our own thing, get to do a Friday dance at the end

- Maths ladders, move on, do loads
- Maths ladders, mark your own and other people's - helps you learn if anything wrong, work out how you're doing it differently
- Forest Schools, nature, Maths, big numbers, and ways to do it quickly. Maths because you learn about lots of different things in maths, mark it ourselves, we can learn and improve it ourselves, and remember the next day not to do that

- Maths - we get through a lot each day
- Literacy and Maths because teachers teach different methods
- Maths - I learn lots because I'm good at it. It's fun doing maths

3. Is there anything else about your lessons and learning?

- Sometimes people get quite upset, that people's friendships, getting hurt - (sister's experience)

- Teacher explains how you've done it wrong
- Find out how you've gone wrong and then you can improve it

are happening when you are enjoying it and feel like you are learning the most?
get to do it in a different kind of way, like investigations or shape hunt around the school

The ones where we get to do stuff instead of actually sitting at our desks, where we

4. Tell me about learning outside the classroom.

- Forest for Science, walk over Hadley Hills blindfolded, fun but hard (being blindfolded)

- When you learn outside, you get more fun out of it as you can play more outside. Inside you have to sit on seats but outside you can sit on grass instead
- Make new friends, play with your friends, if someone hasn't got anyone to play with, you can let them play with you
- when? Play games, learn and discover.. C Normally playtime... Forest Schools. Forest Schools is good as sometimes you get to make stuff outside, P.E. get to have a bit of fresh air, break you get to learn how to play together
- Forest Schools is good fun when we do it. Forest Schools and P.E. outside because both are really fun.

Can you think of an example which wasn't playtime, forest schools or P.E.?

- Minibeasts in Science and Lego maps in Hadley woods Geography - good
- Hearing hunt and listen to sounds, played bingo with noises
- Mile a day - quite like it as we get to go outside and we have some fun, get to talk to your friends, other people get to join in
- Sometimes we go outside to do activities in Literacy to act out things
- Fire-bell because we don't do much other than those three activities outdoors
- Sometimes we go outside, don't think it's really a lesson; guess can be, we use chalk on ground. once for science, that was quite good, separate mixtures: rice, paper clips and stones, and what? outside. - more fun.
- earlier about anything else that works well in your learning: The ones where we get to do stuff instead of actually sitting at our desks, where we get to do it in a different kind of way, like investigations or shape hunt around the school
- Drawing in the forest but that was a lesson, not one you'd have every week

5. Tell me about collaborative learning.

- (Gave an example of 3 people together) measure in Year 1, tables in groups looked up things on the computer, one person had the piece of paper and one the computer and we why do you prefer working on your own/group? In a group because get more stuff done, more facts/ Prefer on my own as easier as loads of people aren't telling me, get your own facts
- Fun working in groups, get to work with my best friends. It helps if we haven't been with them, if they are sensible, new people good as learn some new stuff
- Get to know more things if you work with a different partner, if the same partner, the same ideas
- Work in teams, figure things out in teams, instead of sitting working on your own - we do lots of it on Fridays Think, pair, share, Stand Up, Hand-Up, Pair-up. You get to find out what your friends ideas are and if you think it's wrong, you can help them understand
- Work together in pairs or groups to learn new things (gave an example in a music lesson) Go in groups of 6 or 4s and write about shapes 'stand and share', miss calls out number one and they share their ideas. Magpie (examples - maths) gives us different ideas and we can think if right or wrong
- In acting we do as we work together in a team. we do discussing stuff
- I quite like working in groups, it's quite fun because you can speak to people about their ideas. Rather work in pairs when we're writing a paragraph, like what we did for balanced argument
- In Literacy sometimes for paired work. Pairing up with other people on the table. Maths we do it if it's a big question. Two brains better than one, always helpful. More the merrier!
- That's my favourite thing to do in Literacy; once in a group and we had to do a thing about advertising a lightbulb and learn it off by heart, we voice recorded, competition, whoever wins gets haribos. Maths - I work with some of my friends in a group, stuck on a qu. allowed to help each other

6. Tell me about thinking skills and activities which help you develop these skills.

- Thinking skills help you - if somebody isn't doing the right choice they can ask if they can get one of them to help them - all good at different things to help you learn memory helps you remember stuff, planner helps you plan, learning bug helps you learn, spider helps you persevere in your work the owl helps you make wise choices

- Really good to have; in upper school you get to take them home. They help your brain as a little voice pops up in my head that gets me learning, my favourite one is creation as I love creating stuff; when I was doing some maths I didn't give up, percy.
- On the walls, circle the ones you've used, use learning bug every day. Sometimes placed in the classroom
- we do use thinking skills, if we do something wrong then do something until we get it right it's percy perseverance, to remember - the gold coin - we use memory, plan before we do it, do something a week ago and try and remember it, it's like memo.

Maths meetings #think get our brains thinking
 do a question but keep working on it use knowledge to help you think hard you need to keep persevering with it. memory and percy for persevering about the questions. Tests use percy. Can't
 your knowledge. oh the owl. wisdom. Using
 writing in pairs helps us improve our writing to see what other people's content is. You need to have certain skills you have to be good at to master something (examples of Literacy and Art) Remembering stuff, think about patches ears listening, eyes watching the teacher, brain awake.
 Thinking skills characters stand for certain things, like Memo which is an elephant is for memory. Laminated pictures of them, when we write our walls, next to success criteria, evidence the description you're thinking in the lesson. Toys of them, stuffed animals. Everyday.
 Percy perseverance is a spider, planner is a giraffe that we use to plan a story, or making up your own play, writing a script, memo helps you remember things. I don't know what wisdom is I use wisdom for reading; whiz through the words. wisdom is the thing that makes you keep on going.

7. How do you know what key skills you need, to be good at each subject? (KS2)

- Not sure really
- Done it before, teachers told you, know next time what you need to do
- Have to be good at all the thinking skills as they help us as if we didn't have them we wouldn't otherwise know what to do. So we wouldn't know about perseverance and memory otherwise... Art we get to do art and crafts, get messy but get to do fun things
- May be before we get on with geography? we talk as a class, or as a table, about what key skills you need to write Don't think we do it
- Beginning of the project books we have all the skills that you need to be good at to do a subject like Literacy and Art. But there are many more too.
- Adding subtracting (maths) you need to know how to do the main things like adding to get to column addition (what about other subjects? Artist, scientist?) Science you need to be able to know what you're doing to be able to do it. Probably ask my teacher what we're meant to be talking about. Go on google, google it up if I was allowed

8. Tell me how your theme and project books work. (KS2)

- Theme books: Literacy at the front, theme at the back.. like worksheets instead of writing (at the back). Project - don't think we've used them yet, not sure what they are. Project books when you're going to make something and design it
- Project books - school trips. Giants (explained details). Learning about giants we'll remember what we've done in the giants topic and then say Under the Sea, will still remember what we've done from last year
- whatever we do to do with that theme we write in our theme books, for example balanced argument about Victorian education went in our project books (half-term/this half-term)Victorians.. C That's our theme.. C Not sure Famous Victorians, Street Child
- In our project books we write anything to do with our theme, so Literacy, Science and Maths about Victorians, famous Victorians
- we have a normal book that we stick all of our work in. Literacy and theme is in the same book. Some science.