

Our Lady and St Joseph's RC Primary School
 Consultation with parents about extended schools services

Parents were asked what extended school provision they were interested in for their children and for any suggestions for activities for parents. The consultation took place during parents' week (October 2007) and parents were asked to complete a simple form with their suggestions. 40 parents responded to the questionnaire and they had 49 children attending the school – most of the parents who responded had children in years 1 to 3 of the school.

Extended School Activities at Our Lady and St Joseph's RC Primary School

A range of activities for children and parents are offered and currently this includes:

| Wrap around childcare | Study Support |
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| Breakfast Club (£2.50 per morning) – between 12 and 20 children attend. After-school club (£6.50 per session) Both are provided by a company called School Friend. Children can also attend a breakfast club and after school club at the nearby De Beauvoir Primary School. Ultimate sports and football also run during the first 2 to 3 weeks of the summer holidays. | Booster clubs for SATS (Year 6) ICT suite for Science revision Maths Tables (Year 6) Social Skills Group (Lunchtimes) |
| Clubs for children | For Parents |
| Music Clubs Flute and Recorder (Mondays) Cello (Tuesdays) Music tuition can be in a group or 1-1 and children pay a fee. Chess Club (Lunchtimes) Sports Clubs Netball (Tuesdays) Tennis (Wednesdays) (£2 per child) Table Tennis (lunchtimes yrs 5 & 6) Football (Thursdays) (£2 per child) Karate (Mon and Wed); 10-12pm (Sat). Yoga (Tues/Fri – 4pm) (£2 per child) | Yoga (Parents/Staff: Thurs, 4-5pm) £2.50 Karate club: a mixed adult and children's class. There is a crèche provided for Karate which is run by two staff members. |
| Waiting lists: There are waiting lists for the children's yoga class, tennis classes and for one to one music tuition. | |

The most popular activities suggested for children were dance, drama and learning a language - Italian, Spanish and French were mentioned, and learning the piano. Generally parents were suggesting that their children would like to try some more creative activities. A few parents suggested help with literacy and numeracy. There was also some interest in a wider range of physical activities such as gymnastics and rounders. Some parents mentioned football and netball which is on already on offer – netball sessions are not running presently but will re-start in January, football is popular but priority is given to children who show an interest in it during PE and who are willing to make a commitment to turn up every week. It is not clear if parents don't know this or are suggesting more football.

Some parents had more than one child at the school – their suggestions are added to the year group for the youngest child only.

| Year | Activities suggested by parents for their children Numbers in brackets=number of times an activity was suggested by a parent in that year group | No of children |
|------------------|--|-----------------------|
| Nursery | Keep fit | 1 |
| Reception | Ballet or dance classes (3) Cooking Keep Fit | 4 |
| Yr 1 | Dance classes (10) Plus Irish dancing and ballet were mentioned Drama classes (7) Art and a request for more creative and messy art stuff (4) Learn a musical instrument and piano mentioned twice (3) Music and singing Languages plus Italian lessons were specifically mentioned (2) Gardening club (2) After school club Gymnastics club Goal setting/prioritising work –short and long term, big and small goals | 12 |
| Yr 2 | Drama (4) Dance (3) plus ballet was mentioned specifically Learn a musical instrument plus piano was mentioned specifically (3) Swimming Gymnastics Tennis Football Art Chess club Debating Sewing Knitting Help with literacy and numeracy (during the week or at weekends) Booster classes | 8 |
| Yr 3 | Piano lessons (2) Dance (2) Drama Learn a language – French or Spanish, and Italian (2) Extra English lessons Hockey Rounders Reading group Keep fit Orchestra and school choir | 8 |
| Yr 4 | A chess club available to other years not just yrs 5 and 6 (2) Numeracy support (3) Learn a language Football introduction for girls A school football team Drama class | 6 |
| Yr 5 | A reduced rate for the after school club – my daughter only has to go for an hour but I have to pay the full price. (2) Learn a language – Italian and Spanish (2) Piano lessons Drama class | 5 |
| Yr 6 | <i>Nb already covered above as parents had younger children</i> | 2 |
| Yr not specified | Cookery classes Drama Gardening Creative Dance More lessons please (not specified what kind) | 3 |
| | Total number of children | 49 |

Activities of interest to parents seemed to be activities of interest to mums (it was mostly mums who responded) such as keep fit and dance classes. One parent suggested language lessons, another suggested a mum's club and another thought there should be some social events for working parents.

| Activities suggested by parents for themselves | |
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| Numbers in brackets=number of times an activity was suggested by a parent in that year group | |
| Reception | A Mums club |
| Yr 1 | Social events for working parents – i.e. after work or at weekends Family days on weekends Yoga (I need a crèche) (2) Pilates (I need a crèche) Keep fit class (2) Dance class – that's a bit fun Ballet |
| Yr 2 | Aerobics Keep fit |
| Yr 3 | Dance |
| Yr 4 | No suggestions |
| Yr 5 | Keep fit class Dance Italian lessons |
| Yr 6 | No suggestions |
| A total of 40 parents responded to the consultation | |

Next Steps

1. Investigate offering drama and dance classes for children – there seems to be a lot of interest in this.
2. Consider trying out other creative activities for children to complement the physical activities currently on offer.
3. Investigate offering language classes for children – for example there are companies who teach languages to children using a club based approach and often using school premises.
4. Build on the success of the current parent and children activity – the karate classes. It may be possible to encourage parents to get involved in new clubs or classes, for example two parents mentioned a gardening club for children but this could involve parents too as could language classes. These could be offered for a time limited period to test out interest and demand.
5. Consider a parents physical activity group – keep fit or dance and review if a crèche is needed.
6. Review how information about extended services is shared with parents. Most parents seem to be well informed but it is clear that a few are not. It may also be useful to advise parents that they can still use the De Beauvoir School after-school club which is cheaper than the club offered by School Friend. The extended schools information on the website is very good but could be updated to include how to join clubs, costs, times etc.