



### School Update

After 6 weeks of Summer holidays, we are all back in school and keen to get going in the new term. There a few changes as we start the new school year, including a new entrance gate and path upgrade for our Early Years which prevents us needing to step up/down and makes it fully accessible.

With regards staffing, this year we have our finalised Early Years Team (Mrs Johnson, Mrs Julie Thomson, Miss Jaclyn Thomson, Mrs Priest and Miss Brown). In our Primary, we have Mrs Fordyce (P1-3), Miss Painter (P4-5) and Miss Nicholson (P6-7). Miss Corry (1 day) and Miss Johnson (half day) also teach in Primary P4-7 to allow for staff development time.

In Secondary, our only change is that Miss Ward has retired and Miss Corry is our Home Economics Teacher. Mr Thomson continues to teach Business & Computing; the funding for this post is used to add to our Learning Support Team who fulfil an invaluable role in BJHS, providing our pupils with the necessary support in class and in school.

All the staff look forward to working with parents and the wider community in the year ahead - if you wish to discuss anything or require further support, please phone or come in to school.

Mr P. Thomson (Head Teacher)

### Term Dates

#### Term 1:

Wed 14th August to  
Fri 11th October

#### Term 2:

Wed 30th October to  
Fri 20th December

#### Term 3:

Tue 7th January to  
Fri 4th April

#### Term 4:

Tue 22nd April to  
Fri 27th June

#### Occasional Holidays:

Wed 29th January  
Fri 21st February  
Mon 24th February  
Mon 21st April  
+1 day to be set by Parent Council



### Pupil Achievements

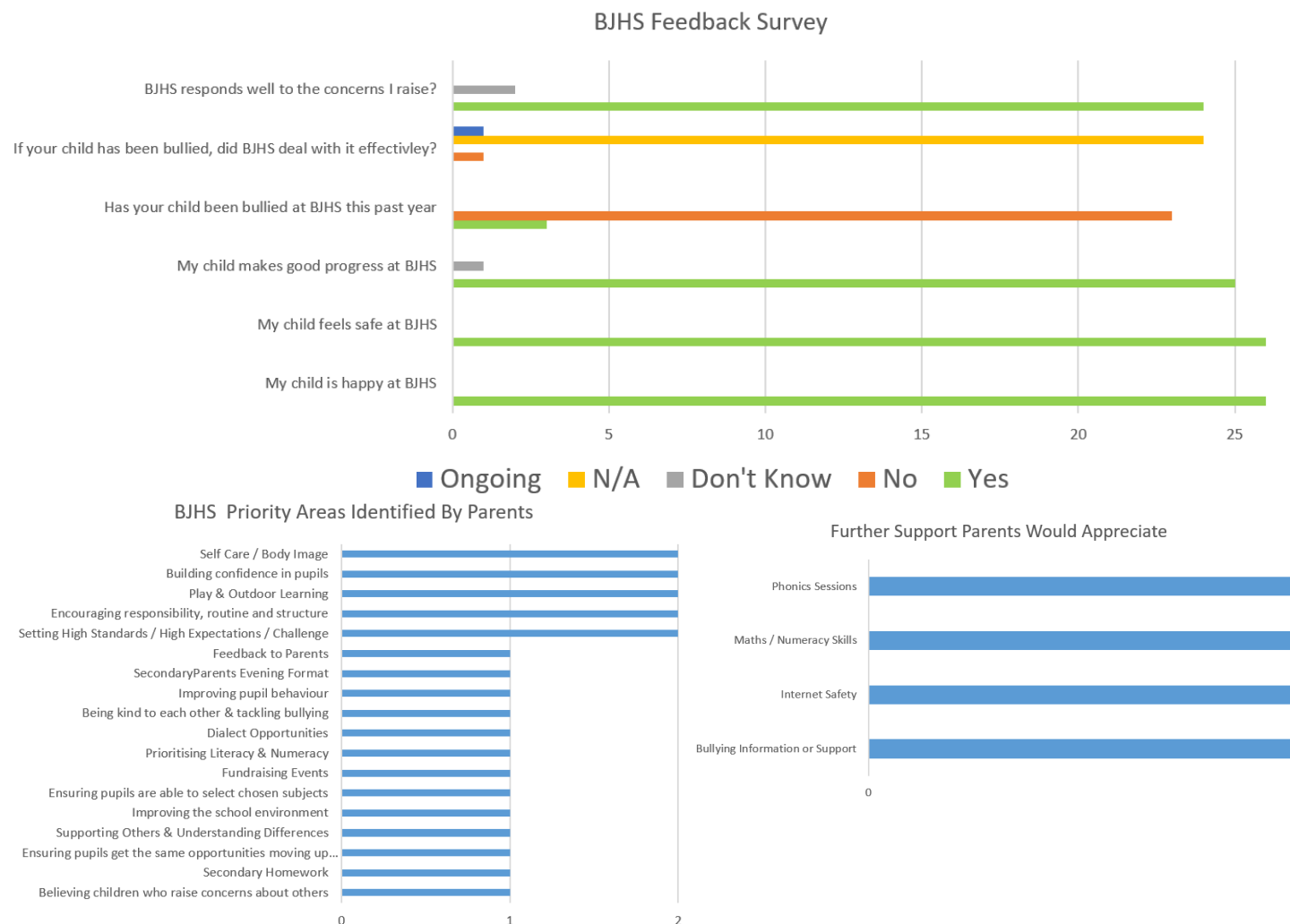
As is tradition in BJHS, we love to celebrate the achievements of our pupils. This is done through the class teacher, TV Screen, assemblies or on the achievement wall in the main hall. If your child has achieved something you would like us to share (that we might not know about), please contact the main office to ensure we can recognise this in school.



Last Year's Achievement Wall Display.

# Parental Feedback & Our School Improvement Plan

We asked all parents at the end of last term for their feedback - on areas of strength at BJHS and areas we could look to improve on. The results are summarised below:



So this year, our 3 main school improvement targets are:

- **Pace & Challenge.** How to ensure we are encouraging our pupils to push themselves, demonstrate what they are able to achieve and take responsibility for their own learning - in preparation for their next steps.
- **Play Based Learning.** To embed play in our Early Years and Primary and be one of the first schools in Scotland to achieve the Play Pedagogy Award. To share with parents the importance of learning through play.
- **National Improvement In Writing Programme.** To work with the Local Authority in improving writing across the school and Early Years mark making and writing development.

In addition to this, we plan to deliver an evening Phonics Session and an evening Internet Safety & Parental Controls Session. Further details on this will be shared nearer the time. We will also be working with pupils as part of the PSE/Health & Wellbeing classes on topics such as body image, healthy living and bullying. We will also update and publicise resources on our school website to assist with numeracy and literacy skills.

There were some comments on the feedback form which were specific to pupils or families and we would encourage these parents to make contact with the school to allow us to address the issue identified. Please phone or come into school and speak with Mr Thomson or Mr Spence to allow us to put the necessary support (or action plan) in place.