



December 2022

Dear Parent / Carer

Prize Giving Survey Response

There was an excellent response to the Parent / Carer Prize Giving survey published earlier this session and I would like to thank everyone for their responses. The results of the survey were unanimously in favour of moving towards two prize giving evenings, one for the BGE (S1 - S3) and one for the Senior Phase (S4 - S6) and 81% of responses were in support of this.

We proposed hosting the BGE event in June and that this would celebrate the students attainment and achievement throughout the session. This will include departmental awards, PRIDE awards based on our praise postcards and school values and wider achievement awards for achievements outside the classroom. Of those who responded to the survey, 93% agreed this was a good idea.

We proposed hosting the Senior Phase event in September / October and this will celebrate the students attainment based on the SQA exam results and our traditional special achievement awards. Of those who responded to the survey, 77% agreed this was a good idea.

As a result of the response we will move to having two awards evening for session 2023/24. However, this session it will remain that there will be a Prize Giving in June that will be similar to previous years but we will start to introduce new awards to start to recognise and celebrate wider achievement.

There were also some key themes coming through regarding comments or concerns and we have tried to answer these below.

Comment / Concern	Response
I would be interested to know how you would include interests out with school. What criteria would you use and how would we submit this.	We are looking to create a wider achievement champion within the school and this member of staff would be responsible for collating this information and promoting recognition.

<p>I think it would be nice if some awards were aimed at the pupils who were making an effort, not just attaining academic results. It can be really disheartening for some pupils who are trying their best but don't always achieve high marks</p>	<p>Our Pride awards are based on our Pride values and one of our values is determination so we are trying to recognise effort within this way.</p>
<p>I believe the awards should reflect achievements that encompass more students and not just grades based - students who have to work harder just to pass and not necessarily pass with A grades. Students who despite difficult personal situations turn up to school and try. I feel a lot of the awards events have focussed mostly on high academic achievement and not on the rest</p>	<p>This is where our Pride awards recognise students for other areas other than attainment. We are also looking to introduce new awards when we start the two awards evenings to broaden the awards available to students. We hope to introduce some of the new awards this session.</p>
<p>It would be great to better understand how the awards are allocated/ decided. Could you include some information on that at the celebration evenings? What about outstanding work/ contributions from students outside of the curriculum?</p>	<p>We will look into including this information on the school website or in the programmes on the evening. We are looking to introduce new awards and will consider these suggestions when the discussion starts around the new awards.</p>
<p>Include awards for achievements outside school for example a volunteering award or maybe caring for others or one for supporting your family or for being a good friend when someone needed it. Consider how to recognise young people who are shy and never put themselves forward. I think awards are tricky as for some young people the effort just to get themselves to school takes more effort than the efforts for others who usually get awards. I don't think there is any easy way to overcome this.</p>	<p>We are looking to introduce new awards and will consider these suggestions when the discussion starts around the new awards.</p>
<p>I think it's important for pupils to be awarded for other achievements rather than just academic eg for showing kindness, manners etc, outside achievements. I feel the pupils who sit quietly in class and try their best but don't always achieve high marks are overlooked and this can affect their self esteem. I am a teacher as well as a parent and work with children with poor self esteem.</p>	<p>We feel that our Pride awards allow us to celebrate student success outside of attainment and academic achievement. We also hope our new awards will celebrate all areas of the school through S1 - S6.</p>
<p>It's great that you are revising the prize giving, and reaching out for feedback. I did feel disappointed with the schools communication and all round transparency towards this last year (for both students and parents). Whilst there is absolute merit in recognising those with the highest academic</p>	<p>We would always welcome feedback in any way. The wider community are always welcome to email or phone the school to discuss ideas or concerns they may have. The hope is that our new awards will recognise a wider range of our student body and allow more students to be recognised</p>

achievement, I also think you need to do a better job at recognising and motivating a wider number students. This could be in regards to a particular piece of work, a project, approach to learning, the behaviours they exhibit throughout the year, wider achievements etc. The most successful in life are necessarily the most academic..

for their achievements. Success is also recognised though the Pride Awards, Head Teacher letters of commendation, website stories etc. However, we do want to ensure this is fully inclusive.

Yours sincerely



Mr C Biddick
Head Teacher