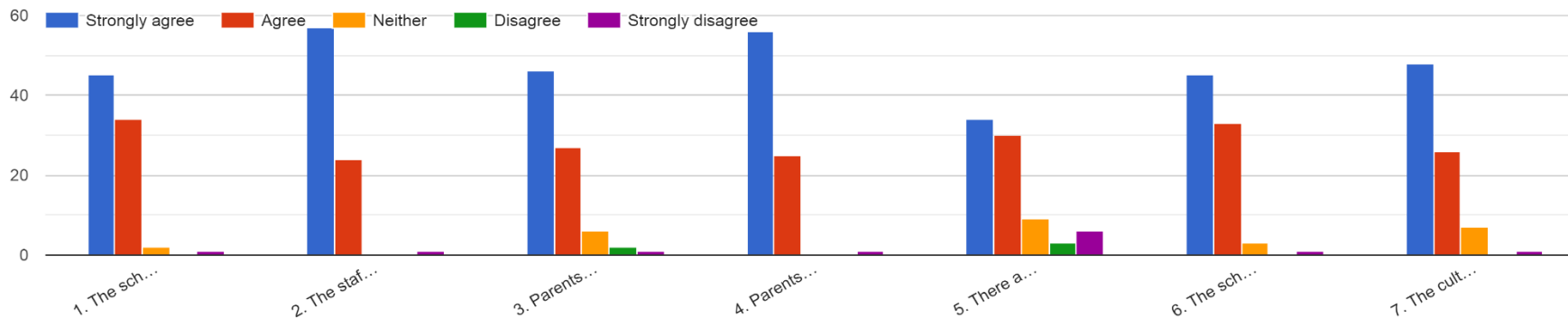


St Alban's Catholic Primary School Catholic Life Parent Survey

June 2023

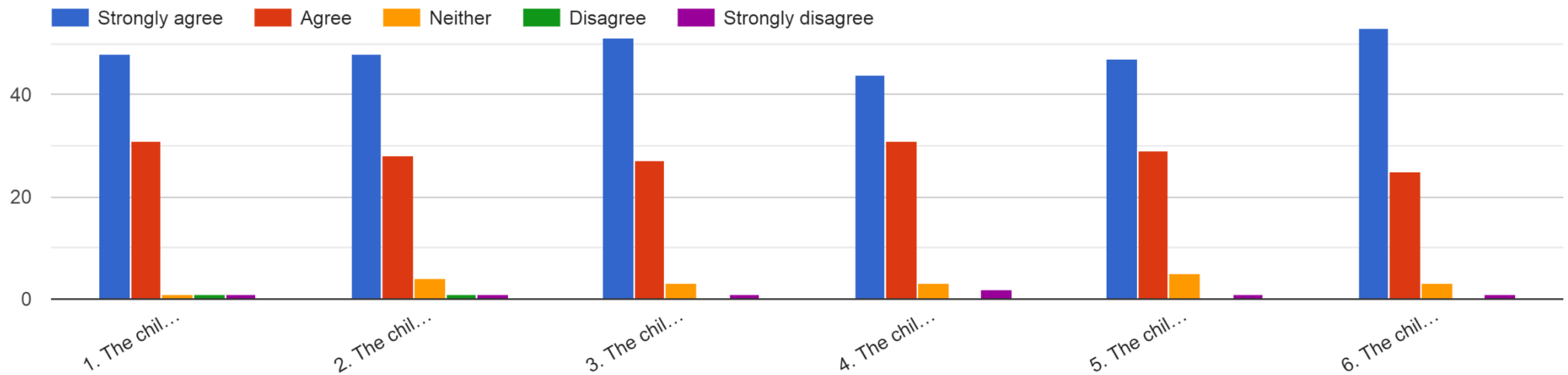
82 responses

1. What the school offers:



1. The school offers a distinctively Catholic education
2. The staff care effectively for the children
3. Parents are kept informed about religious education and worship
4. Parents are welcomed to events in the school's 'Catholic life'
5. There are good links between the school and the church
6. The school environment reflects the school's Catholic character
7. The culture of the school values and supports various cultures and belief traditions

2. How the school helps children to progress



1. The children gain a clear sense of right and wrong
2. The children build up good personal relationships
3. The children show responsible attitudes towards society
4. The children develop well in their spiritual life
5. The children make good progress in religious education
6. The children are encouraged to participate in the Catholic life of the school

Any other comments

- We are grateful for the wonderful religious education that our children receive at St Albans.
- It's a little bit extreme.
- I find it terribly sad that, whilst there are clearly opportunities for the school to use OLEM for services, the clergy there appear to have a very hands-off policy in terms of their contribution to the life of the school.
- It would help if the holy communion course would be done at school or after school . I am also not clear on why the school masses are done by the Blackfriars priest and not the OLEM priest.
- I think the school does a great job immersing the kids up in a Catholic lifestyle, but I fear a lot of it is hidden from parents. Maybe a dedicated section in the newsletter specifically on the Catholic/Religious affairs of the school?...
- Generally very pleased, especially with the children writing/learning prayers and the rosary. Notice for school Masses could be better publicized and the children, while well behaved in Mass, do not seem as confident at the order of Mass/responses as expected.
- I chose to send my child to St. Albans because I want them to grow up in a Catholic environment. I think this is the best position for my child and for our family. I am ambivalent about exploring other religions and cultures at this stage. I think it makes sense to focus on inculcating a proper sense of Catholic identity in primary education, for Catholic children. There will be plenty of time to learn about other philosophies when they are older/in their spare time. It is particularly important to me that my children are shielded from the so called “progressive” movement that is very prominent and vocal in our society currently. I think these movements are incredibly damaging to children, certainly abusive and antithetical to the Christian way of life. I would like my children to learn in an environment that is unencumbered by these things and I believe a traditional Catholic environment is the best place for this. More generally, I remain to be convinced that school is the best place to learn about these moral and social issues. I’d rather my children focussed on core academic subjects and left the vogue social issues of certain alternative “lifestyles” to the parents to dissect.
- I believe the school achieves an excellent balance of promoting Catholic values, whilst encouraging an inclusive understanding and appreciation of other faiths, beliefs and cultures, and equipping the children to think independently and develop their own sense of responsibilities and values.
- Q6 Mainly in Y6. Children in other classes are passive bystanders.
- There could be improved relationships between OLEM and the school, particularly around the availability of space for City Kids afterschool club capacity. If i understand correctly that this is the reason for small club capacity.
- There should be school Masses on all Holy Days of Obligation. Meatless Fridays
- I would love for first holy communion lessons to be done during the school day as it’s done in St Lawrence’s.
- Thank you for all your very hard work!
- Very impressed my son stands out among other children and I strongly believe it’s the big role the school plays . Thank you very much

- The school offers a truly excellent Catholic education. It is *the* reason why we wanted our children to attend. The teaching and pastoral care is first class. The links with the church right next door are not what they should be which is a sadness and missed opportunity.
- We are Hindus and not from the Catholic faith. We are very very happy that our child gets to study in this school. The school atmosphere, the teachers (Mrs Paul and Mrs Ruvolo) and the head teacher Mr McCrossan are exceptional. School is very interested in development of all children. The school environment is harmonious and peaceful. We are very happy that we decided to chose this school. I am at peace to send my child to school every single day.
- Couldn't be happier about the school. It is so reassuring to know my children have very caring teachers and teaching assistants looking after them and helping them fulfil their full potential - all under the leadership of Mr. McCrossan!
- The school has a strong Catholic ethos whilst encouraging the children to understand and appreciate other faiths.
- As a Catholic family we are very happy that the children are offered education on other religions too, helping them build an understanding of other faiths and how they have similarities to their own Catholic faith. As parents we very feel included in all the services the school participate in at the Church. Grandparents are always very happy to be a part of these too.
- The school does a lovely job in teaching children right and wrong in a gentle, warm way (never shaming). I have been deeply disappointed by how OLEM supports the school (e.g. not supporting the use of church space for after-school clubs etc).
- Excellent and deep rooted and thoughtfully responsive
- There is a poor link between church and school because OLEM does nothing to support the school. It is not the school's fault. Despite this, School reached out to find other priests, like Fr Paul from the chaplaincy. The school is doing the best it can given the circumstances.