

S1 Learning Group

November 2014

Points Discussed

We discussed what motivates pupils to work hard. They listed the following in the order given below:

- Tests
- Good teacher - one who explains things well
- Reports home to their parents
- Friends
- Subjects they enjoy
- Different teaching styles used in the classroom

The said that they are demotivated by:

- Teachers who don't listen to

We discussed the differences between how they are assessed at secondary compared with primary. Pupils felt that they were given more written tests here but were not concerned by this. They said that teachers look at the work in their class jotters and they are also given practical assessments in some subjects. We went on to discuss peer assessment which they all said they take part in. They said that this is sometimes easy to do but it depends on who they are paired with. They are sometimes wary of upsetting a friend when trying to give constructive criticism, but they do find the process helpful.

The group said that they find assessments useful and like being assessed in a variety of ways, but that they find tests the most useful in helping them to improve. They like being given a score. When we discussed how they react to scores and comments, they said that, if they have a low score, they will focus on the score rather than the comments and will try to improve their score for the next time. When asked if they take note of the comments for help on how to improve they said that they do, but the score is still their main focus.

All of the group felt that they have made progress in all subjects since starting at Dalziel. Some said that they have covered bits of work in maths, English and social studies that were covered at primary but stated that they were building on these skills and knowledge.

Mrs Allison will hold a special assembly to highlight this to everyone.

Some of the group were still unsure of what was meant by the broad general education. They felt it would be good to highlight this at an assembly.