

All Saints' CEVC Primary School



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Inspire Challenge Succeed

Governor Newsletter – Summer 2018

Weather wise, it's been a fantastic summer so far, and it's been another great year for our school – which continues to be recognised locally and beyond as providing an outstanding education for its pupils.

All Saints maintains its 'outstanding' status because of our commitment and outward approach to continuous development and improvement. Key to this, is our role as a National Support School and the time Mrs Lamb and the staff spend supporting other schools in the area.

Mrs Lamb's dedication to education and pupil achievement is demonstrated by her position as a National Leader of Education. Mrs Lamb is also involved in the continuous development of staff through her involvement with the Lark Teaching School Alliance.

All of these commitments provide high quality training and learning opportunities and valuable experiences which benefit our school. We pride ourselves in ensuring that all our teachers and staff have the chance to challenge themselves and extend their knowledge in order to become better teachers and to improve the education of All Saints' children.

Recent Awards

Following on from last year's Excellence in Literacy mark, the school has been awarded Artsmark Gold this term. We have also recently been re-assessed for the School Games mark and achieved gold again. These are fantastic achievements – congratulations to all the staff involved in the hard work required to gain these awards.

Performance Data

The professionalism and efforts from all staff throughout school has been justified by an exceptional set of performance data across the school. We await the national data for 2018 but in comparison to last year's, we continue to perform very well.

In our Reception class the EYFS 'Good Level of Development' is considerably above national and in the Year 1 and Year 2 phonics checks, our results continue to exceed national levels.

At the end of Key Stage 1, our results for children being at the 'expected level' also exceed the national results and we also have high percentages of pupils working at the 'greater depth standard' in all core subjects.

At the top end of the school, at the end of Key Stage 2, our second year of SATs results confirms that we are considerably higher than national standards in the combined reading, writing and maths measure.

Motivation Cooperation Creativity Independence Curiosity Stickability



Artsmark
Gold Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England



National Teaching School
designated by

National College for
Teaching & Leadership



Excellence in Literacy
Quality Mark



What's even more pleasing and perhaps a greater reflection of the standards of teaching at All Saints, is the level of progress children have made in all areas since they started. Again, we await this year's national data figures, but compared to last year's national standard, All Saints' progress data is well above the average in reading and maths and at national standard in writing and reflects the efforts of all staff and children right from the moment they start in Reception class.

School Ethos – Mission & Vision

Our performance data should and will be celebrated but we should also celebrate the enriched and diverse curriculum provided, which forms part of the school's mission and vision. So, in addition to the continuing excellent academic results the school continues to develop a rich, broad and balanced curriculum that at its heart includes the core subjects but is continually developing.

This past year has included a new Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) provision programme, we also extended our science offer to include EmpiriBox in Key Stage 1 for this year. We have maintained and developed our outside learning and forest schools offer which includes the 'Seed to Tree' programme, we have also enhanced our sports and creative arts provision – vital in helping us achieve the Artsmark Gold award.

This really is a fantastic and diverse educational offer for our children and it's thanks to Mrs Lamb, the teachers, teaching assistants and school staff who make all of this possible.

Governing Board – 2017/18 Changes and Challenges & Actions

Due to previous governors stepping down and the conclusion of terms of office, we advertised for two new parent governors at the end of the last academic year.

We had a very positive response and received several very strong applications which led to us holding a parent governor election. The ballot result was very close and resulted in the election of Katie Haselhurst and Tom Bivins to our board. They bring new skills and both have settled in quickly and are contributing to the work of the governing board.

Our main challenge this year, has been Suffolk County Council's (SCC) decision to review and change the School and Post 16 Travel Policy. As you know, we assessed the proposed changes and felt that any change from the existing policy was likely to have a negative impact on the longer-term future of the school and we therefore strongly opposed any changes.

We held parent and community forums to share the information and potential impacts of any changes and encouraged everyone to provide their personal views and feedback during the consultation period.

The consultation results were overwhelmingly opposed to any changes, but sadly the SCC cabinet decided to proceed with changes to the policy. This decision was temporarily halted as it was 'called in' by opposition groups and councillors but this was later over-turned during a scrutiny review and therefore changes will be made to the School & Post 16 Travel Policy commencing September 2019.

The new policy will be phased in which means that that children who are already receiving transport to a particular school won't have their transport removed, but **from September 2019 children starting at our school, or moving home and changing schools**, and who meet the minimum distance criteria (i.e.: over 2 miles for those under 8 years old and 3 miles or over for 8-16 year olds) **will only be entitled to council funded transport to their nearest school** with an available place.

The new policy will therefore impact children who will be starting at secondary school in September 2019, **so this will affect our current Year 5 class and all future year groups who move to secondary school thereafter**. Further details of the policy changes are available from the School Travel section of the council's website: www.suffolk.gov.uk

Hello and farewell

Firstly, we'd like to belatedly welcome Mrs Hood who joined the school office in the spring term and who has contributed enormously to the ever-challenging role of the smooth running of the school administration. Mrs Hood has worked exceptionally hard adopting the new GDPR requirements and ensuring that the school complies with these new regulations.

We're sad to say goodbye to Mr Hepper, Miss Turner, Mrs Gibbs, Miss Neeve, Mrs Wilson and in September 2018 Mrs Millyard, will leave to commence her maternity leave for her second baby.

Mr Hepper has been with us for two years, which seems longer due to his positive impact and his calming and nurturing presence. Mr Hepper has been a great asset to the school and a fantastic teacher and will be missed. He is off to pastures new to teach in London. Miss Turner will also be moving on to teach in London and although she has only been with us for this last academic year, her passion and energy have had a big influence and worked very well with our current Willow class.

Mrs Gibb will also be moving on from her role as a teaching assistant at the end of term. Her range of skills and experience have been an enormous benefit to our school. Again, we will be very sad to see her go and thank her for everything she has done for the children. Miss Neeve leaves us from her role as teaching assistant due to a long-term illness – she leaves with our heartfelt best wishes. Mrs Wilson left us in the spring term to spend more time with her family. They all leave us with our very best wishes for the future.

We are excited to welcome, Mrs Leighfield, Mr Mison and Mrs Coull, who will be joining us in the autumn term – I know that they are already working hard on planning fantastic experiences for children in Lime, Horse Chestnut and Willow classes next year. Also, Mrs Clark will be returning from maternity leave in September, and will work part-time with Mrs Jackson in Woodpeckers club.

The Lark Teaching School Alliance (TSA)

This year has been the first full year of the Lark TSA, which provides high quality continuous professional development (CPD) and new qualified teacher induction training, which greatly benefits our school and staff.

In addition to these valuable training opportunities, the Lark TSA is now working with a network of TSAs across Cambridge and the Fenlands in a collaboration called The Nucleus. In 2019, the Lark TSA will be offering initial teacher training (ITT) for the Bury St Edmunds area through the Cambridge Teaching Schools Network – this will provide good quality teachers in our area which will help future recruitment for Bury schools.

Extra Curricular School clubs

The school's extra curricular clubs are going from strength to strength thanks to the hard work of Mrs Plummer who is a teaching assistant and a member of the governing board. The current clubs are very popular and we know from your parent survey responses that you would like even more. Sadly, it's not easy to find professionals who are able to run clubs either before school or after school in our rural location. So, if you know of anyone who is able to run an extra curricular club then please get in contact with the school office.

Thank you

The theme running through this newsletter has been hard work, so as well as thanking our brilliant hard-working staff, there are also many people give their time freely to help All Saints continue to offer its children an outstanding education.

We would like to thank everyone involved with the school for their contributions over the last year, notably: Charles Noble Jamieson for supporting the school by playing piano in assemblies and school concerts; Katie Norris for helping with the school garden; Tammy Waughman & Katy Bell for leading the PTA and organising hugely successful fund-raising events which provide much needed funds for enrichment activities.

Finally, I'd like to thank the members on the board of governors as they are all volunteers who devote time to numerous meetings throughout the year and prepare and complete work outside of them, carry out governor monitoring and attend training courses to develop their skills in order to effectively fulfil their roles.

I wish you all a relaxing summer and hope this great weather continues so you can enjoy it with your families.

Stephen Lerner – Chair of Governors