



Parish Assembly – Friday 11th May 2018

The school have enjoyed a successful year with excellent year 6 SATs results at the end of last year. 89% of the pupils achieved the expected standard in reading compared to the national percentage of 71% (including a 67% achieving a higher standard compared to 25% nationally), in Writing 82.4% of our pupils achieved the expected standard compared to the National percentage of 74%, in Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling 83% of our pupils achieved the expected standard compared to the national percentage of 77% and in Mathematics 83% of our pupils achieved the expected standard compared to the national percentage of 75%. We were particularly pleased with our reading progress which is considered 'well above' national averages.

Soon after I gave this report last year, we had a visit from Ofsted who judged us as a 'good' school. The report highlighted the fact that the children are 'well-mannered and eager learners' who consider their school to be 'amazing'. 'All members of the school community [were] proud to be part of its supportive and family ethos' and 'the vast majority of parents report that it is 'awesome' with a 'strong team spirit'. We were pleased with the report and I am very grateful to all the staff, Governors, parents, volunteers and, of course, our children for making our school so successful.

In March of this year, we had our Church Inspection. They too judged us as 'good' with two out of the four areas of the school being judged as 'outstanding', namely the school's Christian distinctiveness and the impact of Collective Worship. The report recognised the very positive relationship we have with the Church and I am grateful to all the Clergy as well as the Open the Book team for all that they do for our school. The highlight of the report was the fact that the children were recognised as being able to 'confidently express measured, reasoned opinions about a broad range of matters while also showing high respect for those whose views may differ.' A key part of the inspection was based on the values we have chosen for our school which are Respect, Kindness and Perseverance which the children presented to the Church community at Education Sunday in February.

The school numbers have increased over the year and we now have 138 children on roll divided into 5 classes.

During the course of the year, there have been lots of highlights:

- We have installed an adventure playground and are currently waiting for the second half of the playground to be re-surfaced. We were also successful in getting some funding from the Diocese to extend a room to make it the appropriate size to be a classroom. Although the Diocese provide most of the funds, the Governors are expected to raise 9% of the total cost and I am most grateful to the Governors and the community for all their support in raising these funds.
- In order to bring the children's learning alive, we run a topic-based curriculum and aim to give children as many opportunities for learning outside of the classroom as possible. This year this has included trips to: INTEC, the Science Museum in Winchester, a Pirate Day at Oxenwood, Bristol Zoo, the Watermill Theatre to see their Christmas production, the Borrowers, Salisbury Cathedral and the Gurdwara in Swindon.



- Ramsbury Estates have been very supportive to our school and many of our children have had the benefit of a trip to various parts of the farm one of which involved Action for River Kennet.
- We also find ways of making learning exciting in the classroom by holding days such as: World Food Day, Pirate Day, Ancient Greek day and World Book Day.
- We take the personal development of our children very seriously and so offer additional activities such as: the Life Education Bus, Walksafe, Bikeability, Fire Safety and Internet Safety talks. One of our TAs is now a qualified ELSA – Emotional Literacy Support Assistant – which means we can provide our more vulnerable children with emotional support.
- We have increased our residential programmes so that children will spend 2 nights away in years 4/5 and then a full week away in year 6. Our first full week's visit takes place this June when we will go to Rockley in Poole.
- We have continued to enhance our PE provision by taking part in a number of different tournaments: tag rugby, tennis, Quad Kids, athletics, rounders, dodgeball, netball, hockey and, of course, our annual sports day. We also attended the Dance Festival at St John's. A key part of our sports provision has been training our year 6s as sports leaders.
- The staff continue to demonstrate their creativity with excellent productions for Harvest, Christmas and Easter. We also enjoyed a production of Aladdin last summer as well as a very successful evening at St John's for their Music for a Summer's evening. We continue to offer guitar, drumming and piano lessons in school.
- Our parent association, Friends of Baydon school, continue with their wonderful fundraising activities including an Easter Eggstravaganza, Christmas Grotto, film nights and our forthcoming sponsored walk. We are very grateful to them for all the time and help that they give the school.
- We run a number of after school clubs including Karate, tennis and football.
- It is important for children to remember others so we take part in fundraising events including BBC Children in Need Day and Go Green Day for Prospect Hospice. Our Community Lunches have continued to be well attended and the children have much enjoyed cooking and serving lunch for the community. My thanks to Mrs Blackwell for organising these.
- Our childcare after school club, Wagtails, continues to be very successful. Our club leader, Mrs Osborne, retires at the end of the year so we are looking for someone to replace her.
- Finally, you may know that after 25 years of loyal service, Mr and Mrs Topp retired. The children gave them a wonderful send off and we wish them all the best in their retirement.

I would like to thank the staff, Governors, parents, volunteers from the community and children for all that they do to make Baydon St Nicholas such a wonderful school.

Caroline Knighton - Headteacher