

Governors' End of Year Achievements and Highlights 2015

Dear Parent or Carer

Each year we select some events and achievements that have made us proud ..

SIAMS report

We are a Good church school. Achieving 'Good' is now more demanding than ever, so we were delighted with this judgement. What was even more impressive was that our RE teaching was judged to be Outstanding. The teaching was described as having 'pace and challenge' with 'varied and imaginative teaching strategies'. The inspector congratulated the staff on the RE days, and how the Church, particularly the URC, has successfully engaged children in learning. Thank you to all the staff, parents, pupils, governors and the Church (particularly Alison Termie) for supporting us.

Our next major inspection will be by OFSTED who will be visiting us early in 2016.

Academic results

This year we have invested in ipads, online learning resources (Bug Club, Abacus, e:learning platform) and classroom resources to support the demands of the new curriculum. We will continue to prioritise attainment and pupil progress so all our children have an opportunity to learn and reach their full potential. Over the summer months we hope you will support your child's learning and continue to do so next year when we officially launch the online homework tools.

Congratulations to all the Y6 children who worked very hard in their Key Stage 2 SATs. Compared to last year we made significant improvements in Maths, Writing and Spelling and Grammar. Next year it's all change again with a different tests in Reception, end of KS1 and KS2. Whilst we will make sure we do not too much pressure on pupils, these tests are important – they are considered to be one of the main indicators of whether or not we are a good school and will measure progress and attainment.

Behaviour

Our school has been awarded Derbyshire's STOP anti-bullying award. Well done to Mrs Bott who spent hours working on our submission. In September we will send out more information about our anti-bullying policy and the strategies we use to encourage good behaviour.

Sports

Congratulations to our PE coordinator, Mr Ford, who has been implementing an ambitious PE action plan. The school has invested in staff training, resources, external sports coaches, after school clubs and provided many opportunities for the children to compete against other schools (table tennis, rounders, football, basketball, athletics, cheerleading). Only 10% of schools in Derbyshire received the National School Games Silver Award and we're proud to say we were one of them – next step is the Gold Award!

Singing and acting

For any parents and children involved in Young Voices this year I'm sure they would agree that it was an amazing experience. Our choir was able to sing with thousands of other children, alongside professional artists, in a huge arena. We have signed up to Young Voices 2016 and we're certain that Miss Crookes and Miss Crowe will work their magic with the children. On a smaller scale the choir also learnt songs from Mary Poppins and performed these at the Glossopdale Singing Competition.

Our Christmas play was a hit with some beautiful solos and enthusiastic singing and acting. The class topic assemblies have become productions in their own right and we look forward to what the teachers and children will perform next year.

Other highlights

The whole school visit to Lyme Park was a great success. We recognise how important these events are to our children and we're committed to ensuring trips are planned in to the school year. Classes have also had enriching experiences in school, for example hatching chicks, meeting the Viking Willard, Forest Schools sessions and the Red Riding Hood pantomime.

We have continued to be involved in village events including the gala, well dressing and the scarecrow competition and participated in national events such as World Book Day, Save the Children's Christmas Jumper and Children in Need. As a way of opening up the school to the local community we are planning to host a mums and tots session on Thursday mornings.

Looking forward

We wish Miss Heard and Miss Wood all the best in their new jobs. We look forward to welcoming Rev Bruce Perrin into our community and Mrs Vitti back from maternity leave.

Lastly, we'd like to wish our Year 6 pupils all the best in High School.

Have a fabulous summer

Vicky Mullis Chair of Governors
on behalf of the Governing Body

If you ever wondered what Governors do:

The Governing Body is made up of a mixture of volunteers, including parents, staff and church representatives (an updated list can be found on our website in September). We meet as a whole team three times a year and more regularly in our committees - personnel, finance & premises and pupils & learning. Our main aim is to work closely with the head teacher to raise standards and make sure the school provides a good quality education. We ensure accountability to parents, staff and others for the school's overall performance, support the Head and staff as well as offer constructive challenge.