

**Farthinghoe Primary School**  
**Head Teacher Report for the Parish Council**  
**April 2021**

*Farthinghoe.....where all children are valued and given the opportunity to thrive!*

*We are....*

*A Community*

*Unique*

*Caring*

*Resilient and able to grasp every opportunity to learn.*

Being resilient has been one of the most important values we have needed this year. Along with the rest of the country we have found different ways of working during lockdown, pulling together as a community to support all our families.

School looks very different at the moment. The children are in phase 'bubbles' and are split across two areas in the school. We have additional cleaning which we have put in place as well as changes to equipment.

During lockdown the school was still open for keyworker children and with approximately 20% of the school attending over the weeks. We were able to buy each child in keystage 2 a laptop, allowing all the children to sign into live lessons and still meet their teachers and friends. In keystage 1 Ms Turner even hosted a virtual 'Great Farthinghoe Bake Off.'

Parents, villagers and the village hall committee have been so supportive during this difficult time and on behalf of the school I would like to thank the village of Farthinghoe.

We are very excited to be back in school and hope to return to normal as soon as possible.

**Our topics in Summer this term are**

- Victorians- agriculture and 'Shoe making'
- The Motor Industry in Northamptonshire
- Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole
- Science- Animals and Habitats

If anyone has any resources or photos that we could borrow to show what Farthinghoe looked like over 100 years ago could they please contact the school.

In September we introduced the Power Maths Scheme (Pearson). This is a structured scheme that is based on the Shanghai Maths programme. This has been a major investment on the schools' part and we are excited to be one of the only schools in the area to be using this resource and taking part in the research project.

We are so fortunate to live in such a beautiful rural community and to have the opportunity of visiting a farm. The children in Keystage 1 (age 5-7) took part in Forest School sessions at Limes Farm. The philosophy of Forest Schools being to encourage and inspire individuals of any age through positive outdoor experiences. The children had the opportunity to learn about the natural environment and at the same time establish and grow in confidence. We are hoping to also grow our own produce on the allotment after half term.

In December we were pleased to welcome The Right Honourable Andrea Leadsom, MP, to our school. She watched an extract of our Nativity play which had originally been shown in a barn at a local farm. It was a short visit but as usual, the children at our school were well informed, articulate and unfailingly polite. Mick Morris the Chair of the Parish Council met with Andrea after the visit and once again I would like to thank the villagers who are working so hard to ensure the roads in Farthinghoe are safe.

We remain a very popular school and currently have 55 children on our school roll. Our unique character and our small class sizes enable us to offer a high adult to child ratio delivering a broad and balanced curriculum.

Farthinghoe Primary School is lucky to be part of such a supportive village community.

Thank you for your continued support.

Wendy Whitehouse  
Head teacher