

FARTHINGHOE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL



Report to Farthinghoe APM 12 April 2017

It has been another successful year for Farthinghoe Primary School.

We continue to be oversubscribed, with 43 pupils currently on roll, and we maintain our good reputation in the local community as well as further afield.

Sustainability of small schools is always high on our agenda, and having decided not to continue the collaboration with Greatworth Primary School we are currently exploring other options to secure our long-term future. Our aim is to work in a group that shares our commitment to high standards and community involvement to allow us to deliver the excellent outcomes for our children that we've come to expect.

Wendy Whitehouse has returned to Farthinghoe as our Head Teacher, employed on a part-time basis. She is very excited to be taking the school forward into new challenges. Catherine Farrell is our Deputy Head teacher and is currently promoting 'thinking skills related to Mindset' across the school. Wendy, Catherine and all of the staff (both teaching and support) continue to do a fantastic job for which we're very grateful.

Our School Ambassador Roles are very important, providing pupils with a voice and the opportunity for the children to take on responsibilities within the school:

- The Environment Ambassadors have taken a lead in improving the playground and buying new resources for PE lessons. In the Autumn term we took part in a Steps challenge. Together the whole school focussed on how to get fit through walking. This term we have invited WADE gym into our school and this has enabled all children to learn new gymnastic skills.
- The Charity Ambassadors continue to raise money for a range of good causes; this year's fundraising efforts have focused on 'doing something funny for money'. The school is collecting money for the Red Nose Day charity through cake sales, film afternoons and sponsored events. On Friday the 24th of March the children celebrated the charity by holding a joke show and selling red noses. Some of the jokes were actually very funny!
- Our Communication Ambassadors are proud to write articles for the Farthinghoe Chronicle and they have extended their repertoire and publish a children's magazine called the 'School Dice Times'.

At the end of this term the school turned itself into a Dinosaur Museum. Parents and friends were invited into school to see the children's work and learn all about this important period in History. Keystage 1 visited the Museum in Woodstock and enjoyed finding out about the work of the archaeologist. We were lucky that two villagers shared their extensive collection of fossils with Keystage 2.

In November we had a monitoring visit from Northamptonshire County Council. Their focus was on the learning environment, pupil progress and attainment, safeguarding and leadership and governance. One of the inspectors spoke with parents, all of whom gave positive feedback, which is very much appreciated. The inspectors highlighted a number of

areas with which they were particularly impressed and in particular commented on the outstanding learning behaviour of all pupils, the level of challenge given by teachers to pupils during lessons and the individual support available to all pupils.

Pupil attainment is high and above national expectations and has been consistently so over the last three years. We are very proud of our children and teachers. The school's OFSTED judgement is Outstanding and this can be attributed to the hard work and dedication of all involved with the school: children, parents, staff and governors.

This year we said thank you and goodbye to Sid Atkins who has been a governor at the school for more years than he'd care to admit. We have a strong governing body but we always welcome and appreciate the support and involvement of the local community in school life; it's your school and if you'd like to visit, get involved or know more then we'd be delighted to see you.

Graham Thorley
Chair of Governing Body