

Farthinghoe Primary School
Head Teacher Report for the Parish Council
March 2018

This report provides villagers with an update on the work the school has been carrying out in order to maintain our 'Outstanding status'. In order to continue to drive further school improvements, a key piece of work at the start of the year has been defining our school values.

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.

The most important area of school development is that we have become part of one of the highest regarded Multi Academy Trusts in the area (Warriner Multi Academy Trust – WMAT). This has provided opportunity and sustainability for the future education of our pupils.

All our classes have been fascinated by our topics this year-

Castles, kings and Queens
Sports for all
Mountains, Rivers and Coasts
Composers through time

To further support the progress our children make in Maths, we have reviewed the curriculum and are introducing a 'mastery approach to teaching'. This style of teaching is inspired by lessons from Shanghai. Currently the children are focussing on learning their multiplication tables for a challenge in the Summer term.

In September we introduced the Prince William Award to all our children in Key stage 2. This takes place within the school day and is taught by instructors who have been in the Armed Forces. It is a character and resilience award programme for children aged 6–14 and the first such award programme in Prince William's name. 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 running this new award.

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 Greatworth Hall. 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.

In February we were pleased to welcome The Right Honourable Andrea Leadsom, MP, to our school. We gave her a tour of the school and she asked the children in Year 5 and 6 their opinions on the possibility of a bypass for Farthinghoe. 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 took part in the tour and once again I would like to thank the villagers who are working so hard to ensure the roads in Farthinghoe are safe.

The RT Hon Andrea Leadsom MP
February 2019

I also had the pleasure of being taken around Farthinghoe Primary by Wendy Whitehouse and Cllr Mick Morris, and was hugely impressed by the fantastic work being done there to support the students in their learning. I was given a fantastic

overview of the school's concerns about the traffic through the village by Maggie and Lauren, and had the opportunity to speak to all the classes, including an in-depth Q&A with years 5 and 6.

In the Summer term we are learning about the Stone Age in Keystage 2 and Watery Worlds in Keystage 1. We will be creating opportunities for the children to use Maths outside in our outdoor classroom and the children across the school will be taking part in producing our school play. We were so pleased to be able to invite the community to watch our Easter Bonnet parade, we hope to repeat this invite to the Summer show.

We remain a very popular school and currently have 45 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