



Uffington Church of England Primary School

Governors' Newsletter – July 2019

A Message from the Chair of Governors

Is it really twelve months since I last issued an end of school year newsletter? As they say, a lot of water has passed under the bridge and it's almost time to say goodbye to our Year 6 children. We are delighted to announce that we are preparing to welcome a full complement of fifteen children into our Reception class in September, and a further five into other year groups; we expect that there will be ninety-five children on roll in September. We set ourselves a target a few years back of developing a marketing strategy which included promoting the school through the website and social media; governors feel that this has been successful with the evidence being shown in the increase in numbers in the school.

For the first time this year, we have included the results of statutory assessment in our newsletter. We would like to congratulate our Year 6 children on their efforts which are reflected in a commendable set of results which are equal, and in many cases, significantly better than the national statistics.

In the body of this letter you will find a statement entitled 'Opportunities for All' which emanated from this year's Parents' Survey. We hope that this will clarify the school's policy on participation in sports and other activities. In addition, as a direct result of the Parents' Survey, an on-line survey has been sent to you via Parentmail regarding your thoughts on homework and we would encourage you to respond so that your opinions can be taken into account as we plan for the future.

Once again, we thank you for your support, coupled with that of the school staff, in negotiating a very difficult year financially. We are pleased to say that as our numbers increase, the future does look more positive in this regard.

'Reach for the Stars' Wrap-around Care

We are delighted to report that the plans for 'Reach for the Stars' have run smoothly and that wrap-around care will be available from 4th September. We have worked closely with Inspire+ to appoint staff and look forward to Mrs Sharalyn Hayter joining us as the provision manager with Mr Stacey as her assistant. Families who have expressed an interest in the provision will have already received their information packs; further copies are available from the school office.

Please remember that if your child wishes to attend an after-school club run by the school, they can transfer to 'Reach for the Stars' at the end of the session.

Congratulations to Abbie Graham and Isabella Burton who won the competitions to design a logo and think of a name for this new venture.



KS2 Results 2019

The data below shows the outcomes of statutory assessment for the end of Key Stage 2 in 2019, and comparative national data for 2018. Children have been tested in Reading, Mathematics and Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling. Writing and Science have been assessed by the teachers who have considered a range of pieces of work in order to reach an overall judgement. Judgements for writing have been subject to statutory moderation by the local authority.

School Data 2019

Number in cohort: 14

	Working towards the standard (NS)	Achieved Standard (AS)	<i>Achieved Greater Depth within the Expected Standard</i>
ENGLISH			
Reading	21%	79%	36%
Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling	7%	93%	21%
Writing	14%	86%	36%
MATHEMATICS	21%	79%	29%
SCIENCE		100%	
Reading, Writing and Mathematics Combined		79%	14%

National Data 2018

	Achieved Standard	Achieved Greater Depth within the Expected Standard
ENGLISH		
Reading	75%	28%
Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling	78%	34%
Writing	78%	20%
MATHEMATICS	76%	24%
SCIENCE	82%	
Reading, Writing and Mathematics Combined	64%	10%

KS1 Results 2019

The data below shows the outcomes of statutory assessment for the end of Key Stage 1 in 2019 and comparative national data for 2018. Children have been tested in Reading and Mathematics and the outcomes of these tests have been taken into consideration when awarding a teacher assessment level for each subject. Writing and Science have been assessed by the teachers who have considered a range of pieces of work in order to reach an overall judgement. Judgements for writing have been subject to statutory moderation by the local authority.

School Data 2019

Number in cohort: 10

	Working at the Pre-key stage standard	Working towards the standard (NS)	Achieved Standard (AS)	<i>Achieved Greater Depth within the Expected Standard</i>
ENGLISH				
Reading	50%	10%	10%	30%
Writing	40%	30%	30%	
MATHEMATICS		20%	10%	70%
SCIENCE			100%	

National Data 2018

	Achieved Standard	Achieved Greater Depth within the Expected Standard
ENGLISH		
Reading	75%	26%
Writing	70%	16%
MATHEMATICS	76%	22%
SCIENCE	83%	

Y1 PHONICS SCREEN

In 2019, all children in the Year 1 cohort who were eligible for assessment, passed the Phonics Screening Check. The national figure for 2018 was 82%.

Opportunities for All

As a school, we pride ourselves on offering a wide range of opportunities for our children. Our small size does mean that we can be more flexible in order to make the most of the opportunities that come our way, and there is no doubt that if you are a pupil in a small school, your chances of being selected to take part in activities are increased. However, that is not to say that every child will automatically have the chance to participate or represent the school and this statement is intended to clarify our position.

PE and Sport

- All children take part in Sports Day.
- From Year 1, all children have the opportunity to take part in daily running at the beginning of each day.
- From Year 3, all children have the opportunity to take part in extra-curricular coaching.
- From Year 3, all children have the opportunity to represent the school at the annual Stamford Welland Academy cross-country meeting which is held on a Saturday in February.
- As long as they can swim 25m, all children in KS2 compete in the school Swimming Gala held in July.
- From Year 3, Stamford and District Sports Association run inter-school sporting competitions which follow a pathway to the county championships; teams for these events are selected on merit in terms of both level of skill and sportsmanship.
- Sports Ambassadors are selected from the most talented children in sport in Y6. Decisions are based upon level of skill and sportsmanship.

Music, Drama and the Arts

- All KS1 and children in the Foundation Stage take part in the Nativity production. All Y5/6 children have the opportunity to take part in the Carol Concert.
- Each class perform together as a *class choir* in assemblies, at the Christmas 'Carols around the Tree' and on other special occasions.
- The *school choir* is made up of a maximum of twenty-five KS2 children who are selected on musical and performance ability to perform in the Carol Concert and Leavers' Service.
- Private tuition in woodwind is available to children from Y4*. Children receiving instrumental tuition may be selected to perform in the Carol Concert and end of year musical concert.

School Council and House Captains

- Each class elects their own school councillors; KS2 elect house captains.

Extra-curricular Clubs

- We endeavour to offer a range of extra-curricular clubs which run either at lunchtime or after school. Those run by school staff are offered free but there may be a cost for clubs such as Sewing*.

**Children in receipt of free school meals may be able to access financial support for paid—for activities. Please speak to Mrs Simms.*

Church School

It is over a year since our last Church School inspection and we continue to develop our effectiveness both as a school and through our links with the parish and diocese.

Fr Aran leads worship most weeks and also leads services for us in church to which families and members of the community are invited. This term, it was the turn of the Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 to lead worship in church and we were delighted to welcome so many families to the service. The school played a significant role in the Uffington Flower Festival, creating four large murals depicting our favourite Old Testament stories from Open the Book which were greatly admired by visitors. Thank you to all the families who brought flowers from their gardens to decorate the Casewick Chapel: they looked beautiful clustered together in the little milk bottles which had been lent to us. The church should be a living building and we believe that by displaying the children's work, we make it clear to anyone visiting that there are children in our community!

Children in Year 6 travelled to Lincoln Cathedral for the annual Church Schools' Festival and Year 4 children once again enjoyed the annual Stamford Churches Together Festival.

A new syllabus for religious education was introduced last autumn; one of the units of work focuses upon Pilgrimage so our Y3/4 children went on one of their own! The children walked through the countryside from Uffington Church to Tallington Church where they completed a range of activities and left postcards for the people of Tallington. The children conducted themselves impeccably and a wonderful time was had by all!



Out and About

This term each class has had the opportunity to get 'out and about': Y5/6 had a fantastic long weekend at the Dearne Valley Kingswood Centre while Y3/4 enjoyed a challenging day at PGL Caythorpe with many overcoming their fears on the legendary 'Big Swing'. The Reception class and KS1 visited Hamerton Zoo where, I am told, the highlight of the day was handling the animals! Wherever we take the children, we are complimented on their good behaviour, attitude and manners—they are, without doubt, a credit to you and our school.



A Summer of Sport

The Summer terms are always a busy time for sport, both in school and elsewhere. We are committed to competing in all the Stamford and District events as qualification at this level is the first step along the pathway to the county competitions. This year, school teams have competed at South-west Lincolnshire level in rounders, swimming, lacrosse, indoor athletics and both boys' and girls' cricket. Following success at this level, three of our teams have competed at county level: the lacrosse team were placed second; the Y4/5 cricket team were placed second; and the netball team came fifth in the county. A fantastic achievement for our small school—well done to everyone who has taken part. Intra-school sport is an important part of school life with house competitions in cross-country, swimming, netball, cricket and rounders, and on sports day—to date both the cross-country and rounders have been won by Kesteven, but we haven't reached the end of term yet!



Lacrosse Team



Kesteven Rounders Team



Y5/6 Cricket Team



Girls' Cricket Team



Y4/5 Cricket Team



Rounders Team

Safeguarding Children

One of our prime responsibilities as a school is to safeguard children. All staff and governors receive regular training in policy and procedures associated with keeping children safe. The Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mrs Simms, with Miss Waters acting in her absence.



A child means everyone under the age of 18.



Children need the right help at the right time to address risks



Remember 'it could happen here' where safeguarding is concerned.



We are all responsible for the welfare of children and keeping the environment safe, whatever our job.

What is safeguarding?

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined as: protecting children from maltreatment; preventing impairment of children's health or development; ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care; and taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.



What do I need to do?



ALWAYS ACT

in the best interests of the child. Never promise confidentiality.



KNOW HOW

to identify children who may benefit from early help.



KNOW THE DIFFERENT

types of abuse and neglect, so that you can identify children who may be in need of help or protection.



Know what to do if a child tells you they are being abused or neglected.



Know who the Designated Safeguarding Lead is and talk to them as soon as you are concerned.



Everyone must read:
Keeping Children Safe in Education Part One and Annex A.
Child Protection policy
Staff behaviour policy



Any staff member can make a referral to children's social care, but they should inform the designated safeguarding lead as soon as possible.



If a teacher finds Female Genital Mutilation appears to have been carried out on a girl under the age of 18, the teacher must report this to the police.



All concerns, discussions and decisions made and the reasons for those decisions should be recorded in writing.

Staff Behaviour



If you are concerned about the behaviour of any staff member, you should speak to the headteacher. Concerns about the headteacher should be referred to the Chair of Governors.

Whistleblowing



If you're worried about poor or unsafe safeguarding practices, or potential failures in the school, talk to the Designated Safeguarding Lead, any senior leader, or the Chair of Governors. If you feel unable to talk someone in school, you can call the NSPCC whistleblowing helpline on 0800 028 0285 or [email: help@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk).

Parent Teachers' Association

The PTA continue to work hard to raise funds for the school. Events this term have included the annual Family Social, Fathers' Day Shop, cake raffles, ice lolly sales and a mufti day and cake sale.

The PTA's involvement with Uffington Scarecrows and GFest were a great success raising over £1,200 and will help to fund school projects including a new shed and development of the Reception outdoor play area. *A huge thank you to all who offer their time to support the PTA!*

Extra-curricular activities this term

Sports coaching—Mrs Swanson and Mr Stacey

Woodwind tuition—Ruth Smith

Two Little Birds Sewing—Vicky Palmer

MACCA Soccer

Running Club—Mr Stacey

Happy Club—Miss Waters

We are currently planning extra-curricular opportunities for the new school year; further information will be sent in September.

Somes Trust

We value highly the financial support given to us by the Somes Trust. The Trust continue to subsidise the cost of swimming tuition and transport to Stamford for both PE and Swimming lessons. This term, they have subsidised the Y5/6 residential and funded books and Bibles for Y6 leavers.

In order to support the school in the current financial climate, we greatly appreciate the Trust's offer to fund grounds maintenance costs in full this year.



We endeavour to post news items on Facebook most days; please follow, like and share!

Dates for your Diary

Monday 15th July—School Sports Day 1:30pm

Wednesday 17th July—Inter-house Cricket at Uffington Cricket Club 4pm

Friday 19th July—Leavers' Service and Prizegiving in Uffington Church 2pm / Term Ends

Wednesday 4th September—Term begins

And finally...

The Governors and Staff would like to wish you and your families a very happy summer. We send our best wishes to our Year 6 leavers and their families, and look forward to welcoming everyone else back again in September!