



ASHURST CE AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL HOME-SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP



The Headteacher's Review of 2015-2016 & Preview of 2016-2017

The academic year 2015-2016 was a very full, exciting and successful one, with much being achieved by individual pupils **and** cohorts of pupils, and by the school as a whole, in ALL aspects of school life including on the sports field **and** at the Ashurst Flower Show, with an amazing 'FIRST PRIZE' for Bumbles' Garden lettuces on 23rd July 2016! - thanks to the commitment, generosity of spirit and wonderful support of **all** associated with the school.

There were **so** many happy times and exciting activities, many now forming part of the tradition of the school and all eagerly anticipated and awaited by pupils, parents, carers and staff alike: the FAPS Family BBQ, the Sussex County Chess Competition, Citizenship Programme, Bikeability, Cookery Days, Bumbles' Garden **and** all Music Festivals. There was the amazing performance by the whole school of 'ROBIN HOOD' at Christmas, the seven class 'Curriculum Visits' to places of interest including Woods Mill and the Mosque in Worthing, the Y5&Y6 Residential Visit to SWANAGE, seven Parent Consultation Mornings/Afternoons, five Open Afternoons, three Sharing Assemblies, two Leavers' Services, representation in the annual Ashurst Flower Show as mentioned above, **AND the welcome introduction of new classteacher of Y5/6, Miss Jordan.** Again, MANY, if not ALL of the above, are featured in your 'favourite moments and events of 2015-2016, cited in your termly COMMENT FORMS and annual EVALUATION FORMS.

The main highlight of 2016 for EVERYONE seems to have been the school celebrations of the QUEEN'S 90TH BIRTHDAY on May 25th and her Majesty's special *unannounced* helicopter 'fly past' as we were singing the National Anthem - seemingly a moment never to be forgotten. Thank you your Majesty!

The school's new popular website reported happily on all of the above throughout 2015-2016 and received high praise for keeping everyone informed. Thank you Mrs Hedley!

The academic year also saw the 'retirement' of French Specialist Mrs Loveless and of Music Specialist and class teacher, Mrs Harwell. Happily, we understand both are going to stay in close contact with the school and, in the case of Mrs Harwell, to continue supporting all Music Festivals - for which another big thank-you.

Two new appointments were made during the year, Mrs Scadding-Hunt as French Specialist and Miss Simpson as class teacher (part-time) of Y3&4 - together with class teacher (part-time) Mrs Robins. Both new appointments are very popular and wonderful additions to the school's already excellent teaching force and staff!

The school had occasion to be proud of the academic progress, achievement and performance of all Ashurst pupils in 2016, especially those subject to the government's formal, statutory assessment at the end of Early Years, Y1, Y2 and Y6.

At the end of 2016, all eleven FS pupils achieved a 'Good Level of Development' in the DfE 'Early Learning Goals', a significant number of the eight Y1 pupils completed the DfE 'Y1 Phonics' test successfully and an equally significant number of the twelve Y2 pupils 'met' and 'exceeded' the governments' 'expected standard' in the DfE 'Reading' and 'Mathematics' KS1 SAT tests. The school was very pleased with the performance of its eight Y6 pupils in 2016. All eight Y6 pupils made significant individual progress, in all subjects tested, set against their respective individual prior attainment (although seemingly no comparisons with testing pre-2016 can be made, according to the Department for National Statistics 5th July 2016) and also taking into account the government's new testing of the National Curriculum post- 2014, the increased knowledge and depth of understanding required of the same and the introduction of scaled scores and age-related 'floor' standards.

Ashurst understands, from the Department for Education on 1st September 2016, that details of individual school's Y6 'Pupil Progress Measures' will not be published, nationally in December 2016, for schools with fewer than eleven pupils eligible for SAT testing in May 2016. This same STATEMENT can also be found on the school's own website, as is statutorily required.

The impact of the school strong spiritual ethos and caring environment, the personalised approach to teaching - which includes that of the Headteacher with Y6 pupils in Spring and Summer terms annually - and

the involvement of pupils in how to learn effectively are significant factors in the success of all pupils and especially those in receipt of Pupil Premium (the school's ANNUAL STATEMENT on PUPIL PREMIUM can also be found on the Ashurst website).

According to the formal and informal responses of parents, pupils and friends to ALL of the many school events and functions, 2015- 2016 was another WONDERFUL academic year!

2015-2016 - *in more detail:*

Ashurst pupils, especially those in KS2, attended Locality Gifted & Talented/Enrichment Days organised by the Chanctonbury Group of Schools. Y5 pupils attended weekly after-school 'Masterclasses' in Maths and Technology at Steyning Grammar School in Spring 2016 and also took part in the Horsham District 'Citizenship Challenge' in June.

The parents of Reception pupils came in to school to observe lessons and discuss YR teaching and learning practices with the classteacher. The parents of Y2 and Y6 pupils, respectively, came in to school in Spring to learn more about the end of the new KS1 and KS2 SATs (Statutory Assessment Tests) and Y2 and Y6 parents came in to school in July to receive the results of their respective children.

Parents Miss Leese, Mrs Preston and Governors Mrs Jesse and Mrs Timms supported pupils in school, mainly in reading. Parent Mrs Garnett helped to organise Bumbles' Garden - with professional support from parent Mr Marshall and towards the end of Spring/beginning of Summer from parent (and now French teacher) Mrs Scadding-Hunt too. Parent Mrs Bricknell organised the purchase of new school uniform and Chairman, Mrs Woods, organised the sale of second-hand uniform. We thank all of them for their hard work and huge contribution to the life of the school.

The school's PE/Sport programme for pupils from Y1-Y6, at Dalesdown Gym from October to March and on the Recreation Ground at other times, with specialist coaching and teaching, as appropriate, proved VERY popular and equally successful. Pupils enjoyed participating in a range of school and inter-school events, competitions and tournaments including: Y5&6 Henfield Football Tournament, Tag Rugby Competition, Y4/5&6 Girls' Swimming Gala, YR - Y6 Multi Sports, Y1&2 Multi Skills and

Athletics. Horsham Leisurelink and classteacher, Miss Jordan, provided after-school seasonal PE/Sports lessons for all pupils from Y1 to Y6 throughout the year AND former Ashurst teacher, Mr Malsbury, organised another highly successful Sports Day which had to be moved from mid-June to early July due to poor weather.

As required by the DfE, a STATEMENT on the school's use of its PE/SPORTS GRANT can be found on the website.

Throughout 2015-2016, in accordance with respective School Development Plans (SDP), pupil progress in English and Maths was closely monitored and evaluated. Members of staff continued to take part in the *moderating of pupils' independent writing*, with others from the Chanctonbury Group of Schools, to ensure consistency of judgements.

There were regular meetings of the network of Steyning & Chanctonbury School Headteachers, and of representatives from individual schools to consult upon the implementation of the NEW DfE ASSESSMENT /TESTING systems to replace *level descriptors* from September 2015.

There were regular meetings of the school's Full Governing Body and formal in-school 'Monitoring Visits' made by them *in pairs* during the year, notably in Autumn and Spring terms - to observe lessons, talk to staff and the Head; and to formally report back to the Full Governing Body thereby holding the leadership and management *to account*. Monitoring included that undertaken by Father Neil on the governments new 'PREVENT STRATEGY' from September 2015. There was full and effective use of the computerised 'Governors' Virtual Office' (GVO) set up by them in 2012-2013. The Chanctonbury Schools' Governance Group (CNoS), of local Headteachers and their respective Chairs of Governors, also established in 2013, met throughout the year to discuss various generic issues including the DfE paper on the 'Promotion of Fundamental British Values' and on the future funding of all our schools.

Visitors to the school were many and included: School Nurse, NHS Physiotherapist, PC Keeley, lay preachers Mrs Croft and Rector Father Neil.

School thanked Dalesdown, Horsham Leisurelink, The Towers' Convent, and Shoreham College for their wonderful support throughout 2015-2016, which once again included use of respective gyms, cookery and swimming

facilities; and minibuses for transport to and from the same and for school visits.

During the academic year, pupils planned and organised a number of events to raise funds for: Christian Aid, the Christian Mission in Sierra Leone (Leavers' service, Chichester), the Rocking Horse Appeal, BBC 'Children in Need' Animal Sanctuary at Church Knowle Dorset - and the adoption of 'Neville' the black Portugese Pot Belly Pig!, In response to pupils' wishes, the school adopted a fourth Silverback Gorilla having learned that Amy, their first adopted Silverback from Rwanda, had still not been sighted since December 2014.

The 'Pupils' Voice' (part of regular Sharing Assemblies) praised: School trips, the Christmas Party, Football, Rugby, Rounders and Cricket Competitions, Cookery lessons, Sports Day and the almost termly now Ashurst Pupils' Talent Show!

The Pupils' Noticeboard, in the main corridor featured, amongst other things in 2015-2016: details of the European Football Cup Competition, the Rocking Horse Appeal and the Summer Olympics of 2016.

Parent/Carer Annual Evaluations (and Pupil Annual Evaluations too!) sang the praises of: all school visits, SPONSORED WALKS, Open Afternoons, Sharing Assemblies, the Christmas Production, Music Festivals, Swanage Visit, Cookery Lessons, Sports Day, Dalesdown and PE provision AND all of the various FAPS' events and functions, especially the Barn Dance in Autumn 2015.

The AMAZING support from the 'Friends of Ashurst Primary School' (FAPS) was VERY MUCH appreciated throughout 2015-2016 and included: art materials/resources, provision of Cups, Shields and Awards, Christmas presents from Santa to the children at their Christmas Party and costume material for the Christmas Production, strawberry teas on Sports Day, the essential 10% contribution towards the Aided *status* of the school building and premises and continuing support towards the school's on-going IT PROJECT, established in 2013.

We thank everyone for making 2015-2016 the WONDERFUL year it was!

A PREVIEW of 2016-2017

There is much excitement for all that is planned by the school for 2016-2017:

- The introduction of new staff.
- The introduction of new school equipment in the form of: reading wallets, PE bags and hi-visibility jackets for pupils for school trips (bought by the kind donations of Y6 parents/pupils at the end of 2016 - and for which another big thank-you).
- The refurbishment of the school's main library.
- The harvesting of Bumbles Garden and the anticipated whole school enjoyment of home-made pumpkin soup!
- Consideration and consultation by all associated with the school on what makes Ashurst CE Primary the special school it is.
- Consideration of greater use for the school's WEBSITE to include emailing/updating respective parents/carers regarding events and changes at short notice such as postponement of Football Club/sports fixture due to bad weather.
- Another full programme of regular and formal 'GOVERNOR VISITS TO SCHOOL': monitoring practices, policies and procedures, reporting back to FGB and holding the L&M *to account*.
- The continuation of Miss Jordan as the school's PE/Sports Coordinator, to once again include overseeing after-school clubs for KS1 & KS2.
- Ensuring the effective use of the school's PE/SPORTS GRANT 2016-2017
- Continuing to develop and enrich the strong association with ST JAMES' CHURCH. Special Sunday Services for HARVEST FESTIVAL, MOTHERING SUNDAY & ROGATION SUNDAY are set to continue starting with HARVEST SERVICE at ST JAMES' CHURCH on SUNDAY 9th OCTOBER at 10.30am - especially in the *interregnum* following the resignation of FATHER NEIL.
- The production by pupils in Y3&4 once again of the school's REMEMBRANCE SERVICE on FRIDAY 11TH NOVEMBER.
- Continuing the moderating of pupils' work in school and across schools to ensure consistency of standards.
- Ensuring the effective use of school's **PUPIL PREMIUM** funding to continue employing a **specialist teacher to support individual and small groups of pupils, as appropriate**. Please see website: **STATEMENT**.

- The continuation of daily **FREE SCHOOL MEALS** for all infant pupils
- Discovering more of the future of **Kotukala School in The Gambia**, with the recent hand-over of leadership and management to PAGEANT CHARITY in Spring 2016.
- The exciting prospect of another residential **Field Study Visit to SWANAGE in June 2017** for Y5&6 pupils.
- Continuation of **PE & GAMES lessons at DALESDOWN** for all Ashurst pupils from Y1-Y6 and specialist-taught **SWIMMING LESSONS AT THE TOWERS' CONVENT** for all pupils from Y1 - Y6, from October half term 2016 to end of Spring term 2017
- The continuation of **COOKERY DAYS AT SHOREHAM COLLEGE** for pupils in Y5&Y6 and cookery lessons 'on-site' for all other pupils.
- Continuation of Chanctonbury Locality Schools' **ENRICHMENT DAYS for PUPILS**.

STAFFING & TEACHING STRUCTURE 2015-2016

FS & KEY STAGE ONE:

Mrs Smith and Mrs Pockett (both full-time)

Mrs Smith: Y1&2 Specialist ART & RE

Mrs Pockett: FS Specialist Computing

Mrs Scadding-Hunt: French weekly Y1 & Y2

The Towers: Swimming Y1 & Y2 *blocked sessions*

Dalesdown weekly Y1&Y2

KEY STAGE TWO:

Y3&Y4:

Mrs Robins (part-time) and Miss Simpson (part-time).

Mrs Robins Specialist DT

Miss Simpson Specialist Additional support

Mrs Hedley: Specialist Computing

PE/Gym/Games: Dalesdown, classteachers and Miss Jordan

The Towers: Swimming

Mrs Scadding-Hunt: French

Y5&Y6:

Miss Jordan (full-time)

Miss Jordan Specialist PE/SPORT

Mrs Hedley: Specialist Computing

PE/Gym./Games: Dalesdown Miss Jordan
The Towers: Swimming
Mrs Scadding-Hunt: French

PLUS:

Mrs Croft: specialist support in RE.
Mr Smith: specialist flute teacher.
Mrs Williams: *across* the school, and with Y6 in particular.
Mrs Hedley: School Office Admin. & Premises, E-Learning Manager
Mrs Ixer: Bursar & School Office Administrator

CLASS TOPICS this year include:

FS & KS1

AUTUMN: 'OUR WONDERFUL WORLD' and 'BRIGHT LIGHTS & DARK NIGHTS'

SPRING: 'ROLLING ALONG and 'KINGS, QUEENS AND CASTLES''

SUMMER: 'GROWING A GARDEN' and 'AMAZING ANIMALS''

KS2 Y3 & Y4: CYCLE ONE

AUTUMN: 'BACK IN THE MISTS OF TIME'

SPRING: 'WORLD CHANGERS'

SUMMER: 'ANCIENT EGYPT'

KS2 Y5 & Y6: CYCLE ONE

AUTUMN: 'THE VICTORIANS'

SPRING: 'A GIANT LEAP FOR MANKIND''

SUMMER: 'BUILDING BRIDGES'

PLUS RESIDENTIAL VISIT

School visits are planned to support topic/project work, wherever possible.

More details and information on the school's **CURRICULUM FROM SEPTEMBER 2016** will be found on the school's **website**.

An ELEVENTH 'Y5&Y6 MUSIC FESTIVAL' for Chanctonbury Schools and 'WHOLE SCHOOL MUSIC FESTIVAL' for Ashurst Primary, and a SEVENTH Chanctonbury Schools' 'Y2 MUSIC FESTIVAL', are all planned WITH MRS HARWELL for **SPRING 2017**. AND Another **ASHURST MASTERCHEF/BAKE-OFF COMPETITION** is planned for **SUMMER 2017!**

The annual **Y5&Y6 Residential Field Studies** visit to **SWANAGE** is booked for **June 2017**. There will be a special presentation opportunity for respective parents in the second half of the Autumn term.

Teams are set to represent the school in: the annual **Football Tournament (Y5&Y6)** in **October 2017**, the **senior pupils Tag Rugby Tournament** in **March 2017**, the **senior pupils' Cricket Competition** in **June 2017** and, of course, the **Annual County Chess Competition 2016-2017**. Plus various inter-school sporting events for **ALL** year groups.

Pupils in the upper school will continue to produce the termly Newsletters for the '**Ashurst Parish Magazine**', the '**Annual Y6 Pupils' Report to Governors and Parents 2016-2017**' and to **meet with Governors at the FGB at the end of Summer term 2017**.

There are **after-school clubs** in: **Chess, Football, Rounders, Athletics, Cricket and Netball** planned throughout the year.

Ashurst parents are to continue supporting in school weekly with reading in both KS1 and KS2.

MRS CROFT will be supporting Assemblies and the teaching of **RE** in school in the Autumn and Spring terms again this year.

The **NHS FRUIT & VEG SCHEME** is set to continue throughout 2016-2017.

Respective senior pupils are to undertake the '**Y5 CITIZENSHIP PROGRAMME**' in Horsham and '**Y6 BIKEABILITY PROGRAMME**' at The Towers in the Spring term.

Throughout 2016-2017, the school intends to continue monitoring pupil progress across the curriculum and especially in Maths and English. It will be working with all schools across the Chanctonbury Locality once again to share and disseminate effective practice. A copy of **School Development Plans 2016-2017**, with all priorities, can be found at the '**Visitors' Desk**' in School House.

Within the school's **LOCAL OFFER** on the website, there is information for parents and carers on the availability of support for Locality Schools

and Chanctonbury families with child-care, breakfast and after-school clubs.

We look forward, as always, to working closely with parents to ensure a strong home-school *partnership* throughout 2016-2017.

For those *new* to the school:

- A copy of the Annual *Review & Preview* is sent home in September every year by pupil post, with Dates for the School Year - including **INSET DAYS** - and can be found on the school's website.
- **Home-School Partnership Newsletters** are sent home at the beginning of each half term (by email) and posted on the school's infant and junior notice boards **and on the school's website, together with copies of the current *Review & Preview*.**
- The school's website has a *Curriculum link* which is updated with pictures and information on what we have been doing and on what we plan to do.
- There are **Sharing Assemblies, Open Afternoons** and various school performances for **ALL** parents and friends to attend.
- There is a **HOMEWORK POLICY from 2015** with advice and guidance on how to support children out of school hours and **Homework surgeries held by teachers** available after/before school to respective parents and pupils.
- There are opportunities for new parents to come in to school to observe lessons and to discuss classroom practices.
- There are opportunities for all parents to come in to school formally, to discuss their child/children's progress with their respective classteachers.
- There are opportunities on formal school '**Comment Forms**' for all parents to provide feedback on school events and occasions.
- In the Autumn term, parents receive a '**Report on Parents' Annual Evaluation**' of the previous academic year.

The school's Ofsted Report of March 2007, DfE 'Letter to Parents' of July 2010 and Diocesan Inspection Report of November 2012 are available on the school's website.

We trust that if parents have any questions/concerns relating to their children's education that they will contact the school immediately. There is an *open door policy*, which means the school is always available to you.

As part of normal practice, the Headteacher is always on the playground **before** school starts everyday and teachers are always on the playground **at the end of school** each day, to discuss urgent matters/concerns and/or to share children's on-going work, as appropriate. All 'Newsletters to Parents' finish: 'Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any concerns.'

THIS AUTUMN we have:

- **The 'SEPTEMBER SPONSORED WALKS' for ALL pupils.**
- **INTRODUCTION TO FAPS for new parents - in school 2.45pm - 3.20pm THURSDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER 2016.**
- **THE FAMILY BARN DANCE on Friday September 30th.**
- **The HARVESTING of BUMBLES GARDEN 2016 - and planning for SPRING/SUMMER 2017**
- **HARVEST FESTIVAL CELEBRATIONS at St James' Church SUNDAY 9TH OCTOBER 2016**
- **Y3&4 REMEMBRANCE SERVICE for pupils, staff and invited guests in school 11TH NOVEMBER.**
- **'BBC CHILDREN IN NEED' £1.00 Non-Uniform Day FRIDAY 18TH NOVEMBER**
- **WHOLE SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PRODUCTION**
- **RECEPTION CLASS/INFANT NATIVITY**

As always, we look forward to working together to make this academic year another very happy, successful and rewarding one for all at Ashurst Primary.

Mrs J A Williams, Headteacher. 1st September 2016

The '2015-2016 Annual Report to Parents and Governors' by Y6 Pupils can be found on the school's website, together with all Newsletters and 'Reviews'.

*Website address: <http://www.ashurstcofe-pri.w-sussex.sch.uk>

Do please visit and e-mail the school with your comments