



St John's C of E Primary School

Together we grow stronger

Headteacher Mr B Basinger-Adams Chair of Governors Mr J Alpin



Governors' Newsletter Christmas 2018

First of all I would like to wish everyone, on behalf of all the governors, a happy Christmas holiday – for the parents that their children will be a source of joy, and for the staff that they will have peace and goodwill. And for the children, that they will find God's love as well as presents under the tree because, after all, school is not just about grades and study and results. As a church school we trust that the children and staff are going to know the Love that came down at Christmas not just in December but throughout the year.

We, the governors are very happy with the dedication and hard work of the teachers, teaching assistants, support staff and headteacher at our school. We know they are all working towards a broad and balanced education of the highest standard for our children. But we also know that the values we want them to have in later life - perseverance, kindness, pride in their work, loyalty, compassion – these are all being addressed in the school day too.

Thanks to the Open the Book team in assemblies and the firm but compassionate behaviour policy in our school we can see the love of Jesus in its best place – at the heart of our day. Children meet fairness and an explanation for that fairness every day.

I see examples of kindness and practical love towards one another every time I come into school. Last week alone I was delighted to discover that children in the current year 6, like St Johns Year 6 children before them, are running lunch time activities for the younger children and a teacher is spending her lunch time 'keeping a low-key eye' on everything.

In another classroom one of the teaching assistants has been spending one of her lunchtimes running a small homework club for children whose parent, for various reasons, might not be able to supervising homework during the evenings.

Meanwhile, a group of children are walking round the school with clipboards checking that everyone has followed the environmental guidelines, protecting our planet's resources.

One of the teachers was spending her lunch hour helping a couple of youngsters plan their assembly talk for fundraising on behalf of less fortunate children.

Later that same week I watched the Family Tree, our own Parents Association, run a fabulous fund raising Christmas Fayre. Pupils from KS2 helped to run various stalls (learning to take change, speak politely to customers, manage their stall) but also, KS3, ex-pupils from St Johns, had turned up to help out, their affection for their old school leading them to join in enthusiastically.

It was a lovely week.

This is the St Johns Way.

A school, which has God's Love in all parts of the day.

Our headteacher is currently planning a new display in the Reception area to celebrate our school's Christian Vision and we are looking forward to that. But in the meantime we can see that the staff and children are living works of art, displaying that vision daily.

May God bless you and your Christmas holiday.

Karen Woollard, for the Governors