



"Living, learning and laughing together."

Head teacher's Report to Sileby Parish Council

March 22

Prepared by Mr T. Jenkinson

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide information regarding Highgate Primary to Sileby Parish Council at their Annual Parish Meeting. Please accept this report as my apologies for not being able to attend the meeting.

2. School Information

2.1 March 2022: 226 children on roll

2.2 Site Development Update – The recent updates to the site have now been fully completed (despite the pandemic). We have fully refurbished the main school building to incorporate a new library space, teaching kitchen and smartened classrooms and washroom facilities. These compliment the hall extension, new classroom block and refurbished Foundation Stage Block. The grounds have also been enhanced by an upgraded Forest School area, running track and new climbing frames on the top and bottom playgrounds.

2.3 Bradgate Education Partnership – Since joining Bradgate Education Partnership as a sponsored academy in May 2021 we have benefited from networking with other likeminded local schools. We are currently working with the Trust, the local authority and the borough council to take on the additional playing field to the south of our grounds.

3. School Achievements /Highlights

3.1 PE, Sports & Coaching – We continue to employ a sports coach as a permanent staff member whilst also working with a professional coaching company to provide consistent delivery of P.E whilst offering additional coaching in skipping. All classes are now timetabled into accessing the Forest School sessions (led by fully trained staff on our team) and we are now re-establishing swimming following the pandemic.

3.2 Breakfast & After School Club Provision – Our Breakfast Club and Little Apples After School provision continue to be ever popular and have grown from strength to strength following the return from lockdowns.

3.3 Residential Trips – as a result of the pandemic we have had to make some changes to the way we deliver our residential visits. Last year, thanks to the local scouts group, we managed to hold a camp on our school field for those who were not able to attend a residential visit (the children were very excited to access a hired climbing wall as part of the experience). In August 2021, we reinstated our visit for Y6 to Hathersage and are in the process of planning the 2022 visit. Unfortunately the venue where we used to stay in Hunstanton became a victim to the pandemic. We have since arranged a new visit more locally to Beaumanor Hall as a residential for Y4.

3.4 Church & Community Links – although Covid restricted many of our usual community links, we were able to take our choir to sing at a residential home for the elderly in Sileby. We would like to reinstate other and build on past links with the church and other community partners and events.

3.5 Response to Covid-19 – There appears to be no let up since the lockdowns of 2020 and 2021. Despite the difficult period, I have been so proud of the way the staff team have all rallied around to provide an excellent response to supporting the children and families of our community. During the lockdowns, we remained open throughout to children of key workers and those most vulnerable (including through school holidays) to a higher proportion of pupils compared to many schools across the county. Since returning to a full opening, we have done our utmost to keep things as normal as possible even when we have had significant absences for staff too. This could not have

been done without the support and cooperation from the parents of our children, a highly skilled staff and governor team and support from members from the trust. We should be rightly proud of our community.

4. Development Areas the Parish Council may be able to help with:

- Continue to put pressure on the borough and county councils to ensure the transfer of the new football field to our school site.
- Consider Highgate School when planning any community events that we could participate in / help to support.
- Promotion of our school within the community to encourage other community groups to seek to work with us.

Kind Regards

Mr. Troy Jenkinson - March 22