

Report from St Mary's Community Primary School, Beetley May 2018

St Mary's CP School continues to thrive with pupil numbers still growing. As we speak we have 189 pupils on roll and in September we expect to welcome our largest Reception class for many years.

Over the past academic year, we have welcomed a large number of new families to the school, drawing on a wider catchment. Our new pupils have settled well and our new families are fully integrated in school life. Our most recent Parent audit (90 responses) produced some wonderful comments reflecting the progress the school has made over recent years. In summary:

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| My child is happy at St Mary's | 96% |
| My child feels safe at school | 96% |
| My child is well looked after at school | 98% |
| I am well informed about my child's progress | 96% |
| My child makes good progress at school | 98% |
| My child is taught well at St Mary's | 98% |
| I find my child's teacher to be approachable | 97% |
| My child receives appropriate homework for their age | 96% |
| Staff ensure pupils are well behaved | 91% |
| The school deals effectively with bullying (23% don't know- it has not been an issue) | 72% |
| The school provides a good range of activities outside of lessons | 100% |
| The school is well led and managed | 99% |
| The school communicates effectively with parents/ carers | 94% |
| Staff at St Mary's take account of children's views | 90% |
| School seeks the views of parents/carers and takes account of suggestions and concerns | 91% |
| I feel confident in approaching the school regarding issues/concerns I may have | 99% |
| I receive the appropriate level of information from governors (27% don't know) | 66% |
| Overall I am happy with the school | 96% |

Some of the comments received:

- St Mary's is a fantastic school. It's extremely well run, is organised and the children learn social networking skills, manners and respect as well as an education. The teachers and staff do an incredible job.
- Fantastic school. Everything we wanted and hoped for when we transferred our daughter. Happy child=happy parents. Thank you.
- It seems to me that the school fosters a real sense of belonging and that children have respect for their fellow pupils and for the institution itself.

We are thrilled with the feedback!

In terms of whole school improvement, the focus this year has been on further developing our curriculum so we are sure our pupils access a full and varied learning programme that meets all aspects of the National Curriculum.

We want our children to have fun at school whilst making the appropriate progress across all aspects of learning. To this end, we have had a number of exciting curriculum enhancement days

and visits; our year 4 and year 6 pupils have a residential opportunity each year and all year groups have the chance to go on trips. This week (w/b 16th April) is science week; we are hosting some mad scientists who are delivering workshops across the school, looking at how our digestive system works and how we produce poo.....always a winner with primary children! Every child will also decorate a hare during a workshop with Lisa from the Clay Barn. Later this term we have healthy living week, an R.E. week and we will be showcasing our art work at the Dereham windmill in June.

Other areas of focus, in line with the National agenda, are ensuring the most able pupils are challenged in all areas of learning, and ensuring those pupils eligible for the Pupil Premium Grant are appropriately supported and make good progress.

In terms of progress:

Early Years pupils again achieved an average points score just above the National figure in 2017.

Y1 pupils are tested in the reading of phonics. 74% of our pupils achieved the expected standard.

KS1 results have dipped slightly and were just below National in 2017 for maths and writing, although above National for reading.

In KS2 we were again above National in nearly all areas at the expected standard.

KS2 SATs results are based on the test papers from May 2017.

We are currently awaiting results of the 2018 SATS, carried out in the week beginning 14th May.

| Key Stage 2 results 2017: | At the expected Standard | National |
|--|--------------------------|----------|
| Reading | 71% | 71% |
| Writing | 88% | 76% |
| VGPS (Vocabulary, grammar, punctuation and spelling) | 79% | 73% |
| Maths | 79% | 75% |
| Combined RWM (reading, writing and maths) | 63% | 61% |

Again I must take this opportunity to thank our dedicated and hard-working PTA. Sam Read has again been at the helm, but really will be standing down this July- she has done so much for St Mary's and I am very grateful to her for all her hard work. This year her team has been successful in installing a new trim trail for the children; they have part funded many of our trips and activities and through their money, we have been able to enhance the curriculum with a number of visitors to the school. In these straightened times, all of this additional fund raising is very much appreciated.

This year our summer fayre is on Saturday 23rd June. We do hope many of you from the local community will come and support us.

We are very proud of our school and of the progress we have made over the last few years. If you are interested in getting involved in the school, whether it be hearing readers, becoming a school governor, or if you would just like to come and visit, you are always very welcome!

Jessica Balado, Headteacher