

St Mary's CE Primary School – Annual Report by Foundation Governors

Under the continued excellent leadership of Llyn Codling, Executive Principal, and Nagindra Chung, Principal, effectiveness of the leadership and management of the School was reviewed by the Local Authority during March 2017 and deemed to be 'Outstanding'. The partnership with the Portswood Primary Academy Trust is now in its 7th year providing excellent support and opportunities for all staff and children. The teaching across the School remains 'Good' to 'Outstanding'. The children and staff work hard together to ensure everyone in the School community is treated with tolerance and respect so that everyone is happy and feels like they belong. It is worthy of note that the pupils in year 6 had a productive year which saw a very good improvement in their Standards and Testing (SAT's) results. The School was also delighted to welcome even more adults to the Parents' evenings in support of the pupils.

The Governors and Senior Leadership Team worked together over a number of topics with funding being at the forefront. Government money provided to schools has been consistent for a number of years but increasing costs ie National Insurance and Pension contributions, etc., has had an impact on the School's budget. It is pleasing to note that the budget remains healthy and the School will continue to ensure that savings through creative management are made, where required, to ensure the highest quality of education is provided.

Pupils were given opportunities to visit a number of external places of an educational interest including the Blue Reef Aquarium, Milestones – Hampshire's living history museum, Southampton Art Gallery, Sea City Museum, Porchester Castle and the Tudor House Museum. Southampton City Council ran a competition in July inviting various age ranges to design a community flag that represented the City's heritage, diversity and unique character. The School was delighted that one of its 2017 year 6 leavers had won his age category.

Each year the School supports a number of charities and again enjoyed activities to raise funds for Southampton City Mission, Children in Need, Poppy Appeal, Solent Relief and the Christmas Shoe Box Appeal.

Father David has been into School on a regular basis and to conclude the year the School gave its annual Christmas performance at St Mary's Church.

There is a lot of activity taking place within the School community and more information can be found during the year on its website: www.stmaryspri.org.uk

The end of the year brought exciting national news. In the New Year's Honours List, Her Majesty The Queen had bestowed an Order of the British Empire (OBE) on Llyn Codling for services to education. She is looking forward to attending her Investiture Service in 2018. Congratulations and well deserved by Llyn.

During the year the School and Board of Governors said a "fond farewell and thank you" to Ann Hirst, as one of its long serving Foundation Governors. Ann played a very active and supportive role on the Board, the children loved her presence in the School and valued her wisdom on the pupils' School Council. Thank You Ann.

Another year in which all those involved with the School have worked hard to support and ensure the best outcome for all the children. Our thanks to all.

Janet Bradford and Pete Hutchings (Foundation Governors)