



Barrowby Church of England Primary School

July 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

As we approach the end of yet another very busy year at our school, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you, once again, for your continued support and share with you some of our school achievements; challenges we've faced as well as outline some of the developmental priorities for our school, in the next academic year.

This year, we have continued to evaluate our provision and embed a whole range of government led initiatives, including, the national curriculum-available to Year 1-6, refining the learning opportunities available to our pupils e.g. use of Tapestry in Reception, Reading and Mathematics in Key Stage 2, amending our assessment procedures so that we can continue to assess the progress and attainment of our children against the new standards, facilitating the 2nd year of the new Key Stage Statutory Assessment Tests (SATs) as well as ensuring all our pupils continue to thrive, at Barrowby CE Primary School.

As a result of our hard work and commitment to 'strive for excellence' our school continues to 'shine.' All children, across the school have achieved highly-once again, confirming our commitment to excellence. This is evident through the percentage of children who:

- are working at a Good Level of Development, by the end of Reception;
- meet the expected standard, in Phonics, by the end of Year 1;
- are working at, or above the expected standard, in Year 1, 3, 4 and 5, as measured by Teacher Assessment;
- are working at or above the expected standard, in Year 2 and Year 6, as measured by Teacher Assessment and the Statutory Assessments Test (SATs).

You have all worked incredibly hard and should be very proud of what you have achieved. This term, we have successfully renewed the Basic Skills Quality Mark, for the 3rd consecutive term. Well done everyone! Please visit the [National Assessments](#) section of our school website, in the Autumn term, for further details on the children's academic performance, this year.

As a '[Platinum SingUp!](#)' and 'Artsmark' school, we continue to celebrate and enjoy the arts, in all its forms. This year, we were recognised as an 'Arts Flagship' by Lincolnshire County Council Music Service for our ongoing work in:

Performing Arts:

- our Key Stage 1 and 2 Choirs, our Y3-4 & Y5-6 Choral Speaking groups, our Y5 & 6 Recorder group, our Dance group and our School Orchestra enjoyed tremendous success at the [Colsterworth Performing Arts Festival](#), yet again;
- our Year 4 class enjoyed a whole terms worth of instrumental tuition, learning to play the Ukulele;
- our Year 5 and 6 children enjoyed the 'Young Americans' who showed the children that if they enjoyed dancing, singing and acting, with a little confidence and determination they can succeed; and
- we enjoyed an array of performances which have included: class assemblies, the Reception Christmas Assembly, Key Stage 1 Nativity, Year 6 Christmas Musical extravaganza, various community events, Resurrection Rock, Concert for Alice, Bi-Annual Summer Fair and our Leaver's Production, 'Lights, Camera...Action!'

Visual Arts-working with professionals:

- our Year 3 class enjoyed working with a Polymer Clay artist;
- our Year 5 class enjoyed creating sculptural forms, while working with a 3D artist;
- our Year 6 children enjoyed working with a specialist LED Light artist;
- the children also enjoyed meeting Korky Paul, the illustrator of the Winnie the Witch books, when he visited our school.

As an 'Artsmark' school, next year, we begin our journey to attaining the 'Platinum' award. We will keep you up to date on our progress. Our 'Arts Summary,' is a way for us to collate, recognise and celebrate our work across all art forms, within our school. Please [CLICK HERE](#) to find out more about the arts provision at our school.



As a Healthy School, with enhanced status, we continue to provide a vast range of curricular and extra-curricular opportunities for all our pupils to enjoy. Across the year:

Curricular

- the children have enjoyed specialist coaching, in: Tag Rugby, Netball, Cricket, Athletics, Multi-skills and Hockey;
- the children continue to have the opportunity to meet with Olympic and Paralympic athletes, who inspire and motivate the children to achieve their goals; and
- we continue to promote healthy and active lifestyles, through our Sports Committee and Food Ambassadors.

Extra-curricular

- the children have enjoyed over 38 sporting extra-curricular clubs this year;
- we have participated in 23 competitions: 13 Interschool and 10 Intraschool events; and
- a range of school teams have enjoyed success, including: our Trampoline team (3rd Place); our Netball team (2nd Place); our Swimming team (2nd in Relay/1st Place Gala) and our Athletics team (2nd place);

This term alone, we were able to provide 45 extra-curricular opportunities, covering sports and the arts, for our children, with a significant proportion of those being organised, resourced and led by older pupils. My thanks go to all those who have 'taken the lead' this year: school staff, parents, governors, coaches and the children. Pupil Leadership continues to develop to encompass a wide range of areas, resulting in 86 children 'taking the lead'; 40% of pupils at Barrowby CE Primary School have acted as Playground Leaders and/or Club Leaders, this year.

As a result of our ongoing work in this area, we have again applied for the [Gold School Games Mark 2016-2017](#). We will be notified early in the Autumn term, after our validation visit if we are successful. We will keep you posted. To learn more about sport and promoting healthy and active lifestyles, please read our [Sports Premium Report](#).

The continued success of our school can only be achieved and sustained by the whole school community working together and relies heavily on parental support. I would particularly like to thank all school staff; both those who have been with us for many years, and those who have joined us more recently, for their hard work, commitment, and dedication throughout the past year. I would also like to thank our Governors, for their commitment to our school, whose role has placed increased demands on them and, our parents, especially the parental volunteers who have given their time freely, each week as well as [FOBS](#) for their continued enthusiasm and support and, of course, our children.

Earlier this year, we saw the completion of the school remodelling, including: access to our Tree House; the renewal of the perimeter fence; refurbishment of a new classroom and Reception office spaces; creation of a new staffroom, meeting room and secure entrance to the school-the foyer; a renewal of the infant and adult toilets; the refurbishment of Y4, 5 and 6 cloakrooms and the ongoing maintenance of the school. As always, my thanks to all who continue to support our school, enabling us to move forward.

Throughout this year, we have continued to refine our home-school communications. This year:

- we continued to use ParentmailPMX and enjoyed many of its functions, such as the Parent's Evening and Surveys and Permissions functions;
- we further explored the use of the electronic 'Learning Journey'-Tapestry, for recording and communicating our Reception children's learning opportunities which was given to our parents, alongside their Annual Report.

As well as further enhance our school website, including a reorganisation of information available so that all members of our school community understand the school's priorities. This included the publication of:

- the [School Development Plan](#);
- the school's [Self Evaluation](#);
- the school's evaluation of its [Church School Distinctiveness](#) and
- the resulting [Diocesan Inspection](#) which saw our school awarded 'outstanding' in November 2016;
- the communication of procedures for [Starting at Barrowby](#) ;
- the reorganisation of information obtained at [Parental Workshops](#) ;
- the update of information for [Curriculum Support](#) for all parents; and
- the updated [11+ Information](#), for Year 5 parents.



These enhancements continue to ensure that all our parents are ideally placed to understand all that Barrowby CE Primary School has to offer. As a school, we continue to be extremely popular. Next year, we welcome 34 Reception pupils and their families. As always, this continues to be a very exciting time for our school.

Our commitment to develop further our school remains high. This academic year, we have enjoyed using the range of new facilities we have at our disposal, including the re-purposed 'Cabbage Patch Garden', our new 'Wildflower Meadow', the Tree House, the new classroom which has been used as a studio space for our dance and instrumental groups and the school's new secure entrance-its foyer.

As we look ahead, we are committed to ensuring the school continues to meet the needs of all its pupils. During the summer holidays, we will again be updating our school facilities, including the ongoing maintenance and decoration of both the interior and exterior of the school building which should all be completed within the holidays.

Thanks to the 'Legacy Gift' of last year's Year 6 children funds will be used to introduce 'a climbing wall' in to the school grounds, providing opportunities for our children to traverse from one end to another, either independently or working as a group-the first part of creating a trim-trail; encouraging more children to become active at play and lunchtime. This will be included as part of the school's remodelling of the pond and wildlife area, next year.

Through previous Legacy gifts, we have been able to provide further resources for our pupils to promote activity at play and lunchtime, including: scooters, rickshaws and a variety of activity boxes; to create a new 'Wildflower Meadow'; to reinstate the 'Cabbage Patch Garden,' and the development of our story circle, in the school grounds for all our children to enjoy. This ongoing commitment ensures our school grounds continue to enthuse and engage our pupils within their learning as we strive to ensure our school environment is purposeful and supports all our pupils to further develop curiosity and enquiring minds.

Our thanks go to our current Year 6 for their contribution towards school life, fulfilling a range of responsibilities such as Librarians; Sport's Committee; Fundraising Committee; Lunchtime Buddies; Playground Leaders and by being exemplary role models for our younger children. This year, funds raised for their 'Legacy Gift' are in excess of £500. Well done and thank you to our Year 6 children for their hard work and effort this year and good luck to all of you, as you continue on your educational journey, at your Secondary School. The children have decided that they would like these funds to be used to build a 'fire pit', so children can use it as part of their outdoor learning.

As we look forward, next year promises to be equally as exciting and challenging. This year, as a school, we implemented further changes, in Key Stage 2, to the teaching and learning of: Reading: developing children's fluency and stamina; and Mathematics: supporting children to develop further their resilience and proficiency.

Next year, we will continue to support our pupils in these areas as well as within:

- Writing: support children to articulate their thoughts and points of view with clarity, whilst also thinking about the listener, supporting all children to develop as creative and skilled writers;
- Science: support children to further develop scientific enquiry as well as scientific knowledge; and
- RE: support children to make informed decisions about the world in which they live. Please [CLICK HERE](#) to find out more about this.

Moving forward we look to embed the curricular and assessment changes, implemented this year so that we:

- continue to ensure that all our pupils are supported, so that all achieve their potential;
- provide further opportunities for our pupils, within the arts, working alongside artists and instrumental specialists;
- continue to develop sport skills through: high quality PE lessons, the use of coaches, a wide variety of extra-curricular opportunities, and an increased amount of competitive sport; as well as
- continue to support our children, to develop further their understanding of the multi-cultural world, in which they live.

At Barrowby CE Primary School, we will continue to 'strive for excellence' in everything that we do, and, with your support, continue to provide the very best education for all our children. Enjoy your summer holidays and I look forward to working with you, next year.

Yours sincerely



Mr L Batey-Headteacher

