



**Kirkby on Bain Church of England Primary School**  
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Headteacher: Simon Morley



## *Learning together for life*

Monday 17 July 2017

### **Newsletter 16**

Dear parents and carers,

It is with mixed emotions that I write the final newsletter of my time at this truly wonderful school. I have been deeply touched by the kind comments and well-wishing I have already received and look forward to the final memorable few days with everyone in the school community: the parents, governors, staff and, most importantly, the children.

Tomorrow, our annual talent show “Kirkby’s Got Talent” will take place in the school hall. Children who would like to participate should bring everything they need (eg music, props) with them on the day. We will endeavour to take lots of photos to share with you.

After school tomorrow, the children in year 6 will be enjoying a farewell barbecue. Children should be collected at 5:30pm please.

The Leavers’ Service takes place on Wednesday beginning at the changed, earlier time of 1:30pm in St Mary’s Church. During the service, we will be saying farewell to all of the children in year 6 as they make the transition from primary to secondary education and to staff who are moving on to pastures new. You are all welcome to join us if you are able.

Since my last newsletter, in which I confirmed class and staffing arrangements for the new term, Mr Hinson (who currently works as a teaching assistant in Willow Class) has successfully acquired a position at a school nearer to his home and so will be leaving our school next week. Mr Hinson has shown huge commitment during his time here and I am sure you will join me in wishing him all the very best in the future.

This academic year began with an Ofsted inspection of the school which resulted in a very positive outcome. It has ended with a SIAMS Church School inspection which took place last week. I am absolutely delighted to inform you that the report has now been published and has graded the school “**outstanding**” in all four categories. The report, which is available to download from the school website, has captured the essence of our school beautifully. It describes the “***tangible sense of care and compassion in this school***” and states that “***children make good or better progress and achieve well academically, due to the significant impact the Christian values have on their motivation and attitudes to learning.***”

The success of this inspection is due to the hard work, care and genuine commitment of all of the staff, the challenge and support of the governors, the huge support from parents but most of all the brilliance of the children. We have achieved an “outstanding” grading because the inspector experienced our school as it always is on a day-to-day basis; our ethos is deeply embedded and permeates all that we do.

The very first time I visited this school, before I was headteacher here, I was immediately struck by the welcoming, family-orientated ethos. I knew straight away that this was a uniquely special place. Over the last seven years, this “specialness” has been commented upon on numerous occasions by lots of visitors; it was there before I became headteacher here and it will last long after I have moved on.

When I joined the school in September 2010, I was extremely lucky to inherit a wonderful staff team, most of whom are still here today. Since then some excellent new additions have arrived. I was warmly welcomed by the governors and the parents and carers. I was bowled over by the children and in the last seven years together we have been through five successful school inspections, seen some changes and enjoyed some successes. Here are just a few:

- We created our vision statement: “Learning together for life”
- We named each class after a tree
- We started building our cairn
- We wrote our school prayer
- We remodelled the EYFS outdoor area and playground
- We continued to develop our nature reserve
- We created the Nature Reserve Group and Spiritual Gang
- We built a school hall

I would like to thank **all** staff through the years for their tireless hard work and commitment and for making this school such an enjoyable place to work; what a great team! Thank you also to the Governing Body, particularly Paul Brewster, for providing me with great support and challenge throughout my time here. Thank you to everyone who has chaired the Friends Committee over the years, to all committee members and to everyone who has helped, supported and participated in raising funds for the benefit of the children in the school. I would also like to thank all of you, the parents and carers, for your support and commitment to working in partnership with the school throughout the last seven years year. Finally though and most importantly my biggest thanks, as always, go to all of the children who have attended this school during my time here. It is they who make the school the very special place that it is.

I will miss you all.

I have no doubt that, under the leadership of Georgina Day, the school will go from strength to strength. I wish her and everyone associated with the school all the very best in the future.

Yours sincerely,



Simon Morley  
Headteacher