

CROUGHTON ALL SAINTS CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Report written by Headteacher Helen Goulder

April 20th 2021

Academic year 2020/21

Despite the pandemic and three lockdowns, which was a huge challenge for us all, but we survived and continue to thrive. The school remained open throughout all three lockdowns with staff also offering child care during the school breaks for children of keyworkers. We had 37 children in school most weeks during the last lockdown. Teachers taught in class and provided remote live teaching and lessons throughout the day. Our team have worked tirelessly and been an absolute credit to the school and the community we serve. Parent feedback was very positive, appreciating the support we offered for remote teaching and our efforts to keep in contact with families. Some families have re-evaluated their circumstances and relocated which has affected our pupil numbers during the year. However, we have had recent enquiries from new families requesting school places so numbers should remain fairly stable. We have just been asked by a family in Banbury to add their child (age one) to our waiting list!

Pupils:

- We currently have 112 pupils in five classes; Year R, Year 1/2, Years 2/3 with Years 4/5 and 5/6 in the Treehouse. Large cohorts in Year 2 and Year 5 meant we had to split these year groups to keep class sizes to a reasonable number.
- Our initial intake for September 2021 is 15 with children from the village, neighbouring villages and Brackley. There are few siblings this year. More places may be requested with house sales completing over the summer and members of our American community arriving in the country in June.
- 15 pupils will transition to secondary school this year. 14 will attend Magdalen College School in Brackley with one pupil attending Kingham Hill School.

Staffing:

- Our early years teacher is currently on Maternity leave. Miss Searston has been teaching in Oak class but will return for one day a week in September to teach Forest School. She is currently being trained in Forest School teaching.

Curriculum:

- Our current focus in school, alongside core subjects, is on social and emotional well-being and physical development. If children are not happy in school, they will not learn and many children have not been active at home so we need to build stamina and working as part of a team. We have also increased our swimming sessions at the pool in Brackley so all of our oldest children can attend.
- We continue to provide a very personalised curriculum with early identification of any barriers to learning along with pastoral support for pupils and parents.

Premises:

- Puddleducks Nursery, in our old school building, are awaiting delivery of a canopy for their outdoor area so they can continue to take their learning outdoors during all weathers.

Future projects:

- Learning outdoors including orienteering will be a focus across the whole school. Staff removed the amphitheatre as it was no longer fit for purpose and we are looking at options for our tepee as it is proving a challenge to maintain. I am in the process of gaining quotes for these works. We also plan to extend our school garden area so more children can engage in gardening projects.