



Debden C of E Primary School

Report for Debden Annual Parish Assembly

April 29th 2014

Debden Church of England Primary School is committed to providing the very best learning opportunities for all our pupils.

Our mission statement

‘Together we value, inspire and prepare your child for the future within a happy, caring Christian community’.

We currently have 145 pupils on roll and are currently oversubscribed in some year groups. Our number to admit per year group is 23 which is prescribed by Essex County Council. Approximately 50% of our pupils come from Carver Barracks. We continue to experience high turbulence throughout the year with pupils joining and leaving us in all year groups. We have a rigorous induction process for all our new pupils which include early, on entry assessments. This enables us to accurately assess each pupils needs and plan appropriate personalised programmes of learning.

We were extremely pleased with our Key Stage 2 SAT results (July 2013) where 100% of our year 6 pupils achieved level 4+ in Reading, Writing and Maths and 41% achieved level 5+. This is in comparison to the Governments floor standards which are 60 % of pupils achieving level 4+ (2013).

We were placed 4th in the Essex league tables and received a letter from Tim Coulson the Director of Education and Learning stating, ‘I was particularly impressed to see that the school was one of those that showed the highest improvement in Key Stage 2 and achieved in some of the highest performance areas for the county in Key Stage 2’.

Governors continue to actively support the school by regular visits where they discuss with staff the curriculum and visit classes to see and talk to pupils. Governors monitor the school improvement plan ensuring that high standards of learning and teaching are maintained.

As a church school we have strong links with Debden Parish Church. We work closely with the priest in charge Hilary Davey. Hilary regularly leads assemblies for us and spends time in the classrooms. The children lead services at the church throughout the year which include Harvest, Christingle, Christmas, Mothering Sunday, Easter and Year 6 leaver’s services. These are well attended by parents and friends of the school.

Although we are a small school we continue to participate in all the sporting tournaments and activities which are organised by our local sports Partnership. This has included tag rugby, swimming, netball, cross country, hockey league and tournament rounders and

cricket. We were particularly pleased with our Hockey 'A' team who were placed 1st in the league with our 'B' team remaining undefeated and being placed 4th.

We continue to provide a range of after school clubs for our pupils which are run by staff and some outside providers. These include recorder, hockey, football, netball, rounders, tag rugby, flamenco, P.E multi-skills, needlecraft, gardening, dance 'hip hop', cookery and tennis.

We have a large school orchestra and choir. Our orchestra perform at our end of year special Presentation Evening. This evening event includes a dance performance by all the classes, presentation of cups and awards, speeches, buffet supper and an orchestral recital.

We continue to develop our links with our partner school in Tang Ting, Nepal. We communicate regularly with the school and pupils and continue to fundraise for the school.

We also support a range of charities including Red White and Blue Day, Children in Need, Red Nose Day, Macmillan Nurses, Multiple Sclerosis and Saffron Walden Riding for the Disabled.

We work in partnership with the local community whenever we can and contributed to the application for Essex village of the year and best kept village. We were pleased to be part of the community groups that were asked to do a presentation to the panel of judges. Our pupils, who represented the school, spoke very well and did a brilliant job.

We were very pleased to be asked to take part in the Village Act of Remembrance again this year. Thirty eight year 5 and 6 children took part. The children also enjoyed learning a little about all the individuals who had lost their lives in the wars through the potted histories that had been made available to the school by the Royal British Legion. It is always a privilege to be asked to take part in the Village Act of Remembrance.

We contribute to the Parish Pump each month which helps to keep the community informed about what's happening in school.

Our FODS (Friends of Debden School) have continued to work hard to raise additional funds for the school and to provide social events for both pupils and their parents. This has included their annual Christmas and summer fayres, children's Christmas sale, providing a special gift for each child to receive from Father Christmas, funding and organising a party for all children in reception class and key stage 1 and a disco for all key stage 2 children, quiz nights and organising a buffet for all our parents and pupils at our end of term special Presentation, Dance and Musical Evening.

Over the last few years we have continued to improve the school building and environment. This year with the help of a grant from the Searle Trust we have been able to resurface the area under our outdoor play equipment with an all weather rubber bonded material. This has enabled our pupils to use the play equipment safely on a daily basis. We have begun a refurbishment programme for the interior of the school which has included painting the school office and replacing some of the carpets in the school. We are in the process of drawing up a plan for refurbishing the exterior of the school.

We are always happy to meet people from the community, show prospective parents around the school and to answer any questions. We have a very informative school website which always carries our latest Newsletter www.debden.essex.sch.uk.

Our forthcoming events include:

Presentation, Dance Production and Musical Evening Thursday 10th July 6pm-9pm

Open Afternoon Tuesday 15th July 1.30-3pm

End of Term Church Service Friday 18th July 9.30am

Sports Day Monday 21st July 10am

We would welcome visitors to any of these events.

Julie Gibbons (Headteacher)