

Chaddleworth St. Andrew's and Shefford Church of England Federated Primary Schools 'Living life in all its fullness'

Review of the year

April 2021 – April 2022

When I think back to April 2021, we were just starting out again, having provided remote learning and on site education since January. Despite the challenges faced, the staff, parents and governors all worked tirelessly to achieve the best outcomes for our children during this period but it has to be said that we were incredibly grateful to all be back in school. One of my 'golden moments' this year was our first Whole School Collective Worship. It was outside in the sunshine and it gave everyone a sense of our school community finally being back together.

Our vision remains the same and we still 'Go the extra mile' but our strapline which was developed with all our stakeholders is now 'Living life in all its fullness'. We want our children to reach their full potential by having the knowledge and skills to achieve it. So with this in mind, staff have created a curriculum, following the National Curriculum which is designed specifically for our school. We know that our children know more and remember more when they experience it first-hand so we have built in a programme of trips and visits. For example, just since September, our history curriculum has included trips to Ufton Court, The Wantage Museum, Swindon and Cricklade Railway Centre and Littlecote Roman Villa. Our RE curriculum included trips to St Mary's Church and a pilgrimage from Great Shefford to Chaddleworth. Our pilgrimage also gave us the opportunity to study the landscape and two different settlements. Kingfishers went to the science museum, Red Kites are due to go to a Sikh gurdwara in Slough and we are planning a whole school trip before the end of the summer term. We have taken part in sports tournaments – archery, football, rugby, Paralympics to name a few – and have more planned for the term. We took the children in year 5 and 6 away on an outdoor adventure residential trip to The Manor in Shropshire. Each evening, we sat together and reflected on our day and prepared for the next one. These are the experiences that they will remember forever.

Everything we do at school is based on our Christian Values of Courage, Compassion, Trust, Friendship, Wisdom and Endurance. This term we are focusing on Wisdom and we are finding out what being wise really means — today two of our children had a disagreement and when one realised what had actually happened, they were quite upset and apologised to the other child who said, "That's okay. We all make mistakes. Even the teacher's make mistakes!" What a wise and compassionate response from a six-year-old! And yes, even teachers make mistakes, but not too many!

In September we welcomed our new Assistant Headteacher, Liz Sayer, who has had a tremendous impact on our whole school curriculum development as well as being our maths and Mental Health Lead. Our staff team has built through the year which has brought new expertise and opportunities for the school.

New developments include the running track which the children love and the designing of our reflection garden. The Shadow and House Captains are developing a programme of mental health strategies with support from our school Mental Health Lead which they are implementing across the school. Our clubs are well attended – we have given 106 spaces for clubs this term. We continue to offer Forest School, specialist PE coaching and music teaching and multiple opportunities for children to learn to play an instrument.

Our wonderful PTFA have been incredibly creative in raising money for the school – just the recent Pop-Up Café raised £527.65. They have worked so hard to provide funding for the reflective garden and also for our extra-curricular activities including the trips.

Last term was a challenging one with multiple absences due to Covid, an event experienced across West Berkshire schools and I would like to say thank you to our staff for the dedication they showed during this time as well as throughout the year. Parents were also very supportive and continue to be. This was greatly appreciated by us all.

Our governors have given been a fantastic source of wisdom and compassion throughout the year – thank you. We also want to thank the local community, Rev Miri, all our visitors and friends of the school who have helped us because they care about our children having the best opportunities.

As you can see we, as a whole community endeavour to give our children every opportunity to 'Live life in all its fullness'.