

## ST BOTOLPHS SCHOOL REPORT 2017

The school has continued to make progress and aims for consistently Good teaching and as a result good learning as a minimum. This academic year our main focus for improvement has been writing with emphasis on grammar and punctuation. At the end of the summer term 2015 we were performing slightly above the national average in writing. However at the end of 2016 our writing had slipped back below the national average. Despite this reading was well above national and both, maths and spelling, punctuation and grammar had shown good improvement and were in line the national expectations.

Teachers are also encouraging the children to be more reflective and proactive in their own learning. Maths and English lessons have a Learning Question which is used to make the children consider what they need to, or will be learning. The children also have Success Criteria. These break down the skills and concepts that the children will need to acquire or display to enable them to meet the requirements of the Learning Question. We have recently updated our marking and feedback policy so that children are encouraged to evaluate their own learning in terms of successes and areas that could be improved. Staff use green pen to emphasise good examples in learning and pink pen to encourage the children to consider what needs to be improved.

The staff have attended professional development training meetings with other local primary schools including the schools involved in our SSIG (Suffolk Schools Improvement Group) and in addition to this we have organised our own professional development training sessions within our school. The main focus for this training has centred around writing and supporting children with SEN. We have also had a major focus on the role of middle leaders within our school and the contribution they make. This is an area that we will continue to improve.

The school curriculum continues to be enriched in numerous ways and is a real strength. These include theme days, visitors to school, school trips, involvement in pyramid activities (these include children from all of the primary schools in our pyramid).

The school also promotes community and parental involvement through school events. These have included Christmas productions and assemblies, regular assemblies led by members of the local community, support for national fund raising events, musical events in school and participating in a variety of sporting activities.

The school is well challenged and supported by its Governing body, which is now has two vacancies although we have interested parents. The Governing body meets all of its statutory duties and is a real asset to the leadership of the school. Governors have recently been considering the possible/likely journey towards becoming an academy and what this involves and means for St Botolph's and the community it serves.

St Botolph's continues and strives to improve the quality of education it provides. We aim to improve children's maths, reading and writing skills and in addition to this provide the children with valuable and exciting learning opportunities in science, music, art and design, humanities, religious education and physical activity.

Mark Cobbold, Headteacher