



## PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

MAY 2022

This academic year has seen the school continue to grow with regards to pupil numbers, and the summer term so far has seen a slightly more 'normal' school life. This has included trips for pupils, participation in various sporting events and more planned to take place with parents.

May is always a busy month in school as there are various statutory assessments taking place. The week beginning the 9<sup>th</sup> May sees our year 6 pupils sitting their end of Key Stage 2 SATs tests. Our year 6 pupils have been working extremely hard all year round, and have engaged positively in the addition tutoring and support on offer in addition to their usual school learning. It is vital we support our year 6 pupils as much as we possible can to successfully make the transition to High School – academically, but also from a social and emotional aspect. We therefore wish our year 6 pupils' good luck in their SATs. This month we also have year 2 pupils participating in their end of Key Stage 1 SATs, and year 4 pupils in the relatively new statutory Multiplication Tables Check. All these assessments are a good benchmark national for our pupils and us as a school, and in the years to come the new leadership team will seek to improve on these, year after year.

With a slight return to normal we have been delighted with the experiences the pupils have had recently. Just last week our year 4 pupils went on their residential to Minsmere/Blaxhall, where they took part in a wide range of activities including; scavenger hunts, binocular training, bird watching and developing their understanding of coastal erosion. Year 6 also had their residential trip to Hilltop, where they took part in a range of exciting activities (e.g. treetop trail, big zipper, air jump and crate stacking to name a few!). As well as these two successful residential we have had a number of other trips – EYFS at Christchurch Park, Year 1 and 2's to Red House Aldeburgh, Year 3 and 4 to Flatford Mill, Years 5 and 6 to West Stow to name a few. Trips can add real value to the children's learning and real-life experiences, we are therefore excited about our Claydon curriculum and the trips linked to this for the pupils in the future.

We are delighted to have been awarded the Bronze Suffolk Young Carers School's Award for the very first time in the school's history, for promoting the early identification and support of young carers in our school.

A young carer is a child from the age of 5 who is caring or supporting a member of their family who has a physical disability, long term illness, mental ill health or problematic use of drugs and alcohol.

A young carer may:

- Feel confused or worried about the family member
- Help with household cleaning and cooking
- Look after younger brothers and sisters
- Struggle to understand the behaviour of the family member
- Provide a level of care that would usually be undertaken by an adult

As a result of this they take on a level of responsibility that is inappropriate to their age and development. This is likely to have a significant impact on their childhood experiences. Young people with caring responsibilities often goes unnoticed in their communities, yet the effects of caring can

be staggering on their lives. Taking on the physical and emotional demands of supporting a family member as they battle with long term sickness, disability, mental ill health or addiction is a lot for young minds to deal with.

At Claydon Primary School we are extremely honoured to receive this award, highlighting the hard work and commitment on a daily basis in supporting our Young Carers we are aware of. We have a Young Carer's Policy, host awareness assemblies, hold termly Young Carer's clubs/ meetings, as well as liaising with Suffolk Young Carers to best work together to meet our Young Carers' needs. Our Bronze Award proudly reinforces our commitment to providing support for any child who may be identified as a young carer.

As a school we have always been proud of our commitment to sport and the opportunities on offer for our pupils, not just via our curriculum but also the extra-curricular clubs on offer. This year we hope to maintain our School Games Gold Award based on commitment to this and the number of pupils participating in various clubs and events throughout the year. Tag Rugby Festivals, Swimming Gala's, Bowling, Football, Futsal, Netball, Cricket to name a few are just some of the sports pupils have represented the school at. I would like to take this opportunity to highlight the school's performance at the School Games Cross Country event at the Royal Hospital School in March. We had 48 pupils attend, and from worries and nerves at the start to the smiles of joy at completion, they were all amazing! They displayed great character, collaboration and community as they worked together to encourage and support each other, making everyone from school involved very proud. But I have to highlight 3 of our pupils in particular - Darcey (year 4) and Maya (year 6) who both finished 4<sup>th</sup> in their races, and Isaac (year 5) who actually came first! Incredible achievements for all three of them.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank pupils, staff, academy committee members and the HSA for their continued hard work and to parents/carers for their ongoing support. As a school we look forward to building further links within the local community we serve so proudly.

Louis Collins  
**Headteacher**