



St Philip Westbrook
C of E Aided Primary School

St Philip's Centre
District Centre
Westbrook
Warrington
WA5 8UE

Mrs J Wightman
Headteacher

Tel: 01925 445391

9th November 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

After returning from the first half-term break of the academic year I take this opportunity as Chair of Governors to welcome all new families to the school. From my time spent in school recently I have observed settled and happy classes throughout the school, and as always, exemplary behaviour.

The role of the governing body at school is to work with the school to ensure it delivers good quality education. Together with the head teacher, who is responsible for all day-to-day management, we set the school aims and policies. The children and their outcomes are at the centre of all that we do as a governing body, alongside ensuring that resources are spent appropriately and positively affect pupil outcomes. We do this through regular full governing body meetings, committees, learning walks, ongoing training, objective setting and data analysis throughout the year.

A full summary of our activities for the previous year, which will further explain our role, can be found in our Impact Statement July 2018:

<http://stphilipwestbrook.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/Governor-Impact-Statement-2017-2018.pdf>

I take this opportunity to update you briefly on some recent findings and actions.

Attainment and Teaching

We are delighted that attainment remains well above national average in all phases of the school. Increasing the number of middle ability children who gain the higher levels remains a key area of focus, as highlighted by Ofsted. The leadership team continue with their observations of lessons and book monitoring continues to take place and indicates effective feedback is being given to pupils in order for them to improve their work. Challenge for pupils is evident in books to help children work at higher standards. This will continue to be assessed by the Governing Body Curriculum Committee.



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Results Headlines

Key Stage 2 Reading

97% of pupils reached the expected standards in reading compared to 75% nationally.
100% of high attainers achieved expected standards in reading compared to 98% nationally.
42% of pupils achieved the higher reading standards in reading compared to 28% nationally.
59% of pupils with previous high attainment achieved the higher standards compared with 58% nationally.

Key Stage 2 Writing

98% of pupils achieved the expected standards in writing compared to 78% nationally.
100% of pupils with previous high attainment in writing achieved greater depth compared with 99% nationally.
59% of pupils with previous high attainment in writing achieved greater depth compared with 50% nationally.

Key Stage 2 Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar (SPAG)

Results were well above national and local average with 100% of pupils reaching the expected standard compared to 78% nationally.
61% reached the higher standards compared to 31% nationally.

Key Stage 1 Reading

87% of pupils achieved the expected standards compared to 75% nationally.
36% of pupils achieved the higher standards compared to 25% nationally.
100% of pupils who were exceeding expectations in Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) achieved the higher standard which is above the national standard.
Phonics results were above national average with 91% achieving the expected standard compared to 83% nationally.
All children who were at the expected standard and above at EYFS passed the phonics screening test.

Key Stage 1 Writing

85% of pupils achieved the expected standard in writing compared with 70% nationally.
19% of pupils achieved greater depth in writing compared to 16% nationally.
All pupils who met exceeding standard at EYFS achieved greater depth which is above national average.



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The fantastic results above reflect the commitment by staff and pupils to their education and our thanks as governors go to all for their efforts and perseverance in all that they do. Just as our school vision says - *Together we aim high and with God's love we can fly.*

Safeguarding

I am delighted that the Safeguarding of pupils was commended by Ofsted and that annual Safeguarding training has taken place. Safeguarding governors will continue to carry out spot checks and ensure policy is adhered to in order to keep our pupils safe.

Facilities and Building

As custodians of the building and facilities the governors are really pleased that we have allocated funding for new windows and doors throughout the building. This has improved the security, energy efficiency and usability of the building and benefits all pupils. The installation of the Spiritual Garden is appreciated by all pupils and used well. My thanks go to all involved in these areas of development, ensuring our pupils are educated in a nurturing and welcoming facility.

SIAMS

In addition to Ofsted Inspections all Church schools have to undertake a SIAMS Inspection (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools). The framework for such Inspections has changed from this September and become much more challenging, and the work involved for schools is significant. From September governors and staff have undertaken specific training and held many meetings and working sessions to evaluate, revise and assess the provision at St Philips, including looking specifically at Collective Worship and Religious Education. We will keep you informed on this over the coming academic year.

Sports Funding, Pupil Premium and Library

A team of governors will imminently undertake learning walks, myself included, to continue our monitoring of the Sports Funding spending and its impact. The governor team who assess the impact of the Pupil Premium strategy are due to meet this month and the impact our new library provision for our pupils continues to be assessed. Our findings will be communicate in due course.



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Moving towards Christmas I look forward to attending some of the performances, details of which will be in the newsletters, and always a highlight of this term. Please do check the excellent and informative school website which is constantly being updated with class news, photos and resources to support your child's learning journey at the school. A school that is going from strength to strength, with the children, their wellbeing and their outcomes at its heart.

With best wishes,

Kate Strickland-Wright
Chair of Governors