

School Report for Kington Langley Parish Council Annual Meeting

17th May 2022

Thank you for your invitation to the Parish Council's Annual Meeting. Unfortunately, both schools are taking part in the Chippenham Schools' Dance Festival at the same time as the meeting, so I am unable to attend. Please accept this report in my absence.

The last 2 years have seen tremendous change and challenges for all. This too has been the same within the Langley Fitzurse School Community. Throughout the pandemic the school has remained open. On occasions where children and families may have 'learnt remotely', the school provided a blended approach to learning supporting children both in school and those at home.

Thankfully since September 2021 and during this academic year, all our children have been 'in school'. There have been times where numbers of COVID cases for both children and staff have been high but working with Public Health and the school community, we have been able to mitigate spread and cases in the best way we could.

LFSSQ Federation

November 2020 marked a significant way in which both Langley Fitzurse and Stanton St Quintin Schools operate following the formation of the LFSSQ Federation. A new and single Governing Body was founded, changes to the leadership structure were seen with Mr Osler appointed as Head of School at Langley Fitzurse and myself as Executive Head across both schools.

The aims of the Federation are follows:

- Respecting each school's own distinctiveness working together as friendly, inclusive village schools within the heart of our communities.
- Provide a safe and nurturing environment where children can begin to develop their full potential by discovering the fun in learning and self-expression as well as self-discipline and resilience.
- Creating a learning culture, where there are high quality teaching and learning opportunities for all

During the last year, changes within the office structure, with Mrs Lizzy Moor leaving to follow new challenges, have allowed opportunities to further developed the Federation, by appointing a bursar and premises lead with responsibility across both schools.

Alignment of contracts such as catering and cleaning, together with economies of scale for trips and transports for both schools are just some of the ways in which working within the Federation is benefitting both schools.

At the end of this school year Mrs Howe will be retiring, so there will be a new face and point of contact at Langley Fitzurse from September 22. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Liz for her 21 years of dedication to the school. She has touched many hearts and contributed so much to the school.

Amaze, Excite, Inspire

The Federation aims go hand in hand with Langley Fitzurse's Ethos of Amaze, Inspire, Excite, and this includes continuing to develop partnerships with school, local community and wider stakeholders.

Being a Church of England school, we continue to work closely with the Diocese, church leaders and our neighbouring schools to encourage and support the Christian Ethos of the school and to ensure that Christian values underpin the work we do. New artwork was installed on the Parents' Shelter outside the school earlier this year to celebrate our ethos and bible verse 'Let us help each other to love others and do good' - Hebrews 10:24. Our thanks go to Sam Perry for working with our children in creating this together with door signs linked to the class names – star constellations. The school and St Peter's Church have been awarded the Church School Partnership Award in recognition of the way in which opportunities and experiences support and enhance growth and development.

Curriculum development continues to be a priority, particularly in response to the impact of the pandemic on children's growth and development. This has included incorporating opportunities to develop social and emotional skills together with those related to the academic curriculum. To this end, the children have taken part in sporting, music, outdoor learning, and residential trips together with activities that support the school's 11 by 11 activities (11 experiences before children leave Langley at 11 years old).

School Environment Developments

As a school, we are always looking at ways in which we can enhance the learning environment. Improvements this year have included playground equipment, hall and foyer redecoration, replacement of AV equipment in the hall.

It is very clear that the school is limited in 'break out' space, the Governing Body are exploring how we can improve the flow and use of usable space within the school, together with a possible expansion of learning space within the school grounds. Whilst this project is in its infancy, there is a definite need, as outlined in a recent Equalities Accessibility Audit, and there is much planning and fundraising to be done. The Parish Council will be updated with developments in due course.

This summer, remedial works on the flat roofs of the building will take place.

Car parking and congestion continues to be monitored. Communication with parents requesting considerate parking at pick up/drop off time is regularly shared through newsletters. We are incredibly grateful and supportive of the parking project to reduce congestion and improve parking outside school.

And finally

Langley Fitzurse CE School is holding a May Fair on Friday 20th May at 3.00pm and I would like to take the opportunity to extend an invitation to join us. You will enjoy Year 6 led stalls, a Maypole performance, a plant sale and of course a warm welcome.