



PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

MAY 2024

This academic year has seen the school continue to go from strength to strength, with a particular highlight being the school being awarded 'Platinum' from the Schools Games association!

For the first time EVER, we have been awarded with the School Games PLATINUM award for our commitment to sport and opportunities for our pupils. After achieving Bronze in 2015, Silver in 2016 then Gold in 2017 (that we maintained for 5 years) we are extremely proud to receive the recognition for our success and commitment to the development of sporting competition across our school and into the community. With a total of 106 pupils just from year 4 - 6 competing in local inter-school competitions this year, we are extremely proud of our pupils for their dedication to all aspects of school sport

A special thanks to Hayley Kitchen in particular who has led on this passionately in school alongside numerous other staff.

This year has also seen the further development of the partnership work between us and Claydon High School. This has seen subject leaders meeting up to discuss and share the opportunities and curriculum on offer to pupils across both schools and projects planned. For example, the English Leads from both schools have planned to deliver a Shakespeare Project to Year 6 that will aid their transition. This is extremely exciting as both schools serve the same families and community, therefore this will only benefit all involved. I have no doubt that this will go from strength to strength next year as there is a change in leadership across both Claydon Primary and Claydon High School. Both current Deputies will be stepping up to take on the Headship of the schools, and as both have been integral to the progress made in the schools over recent years I have no doubt will be hugely successful in continuing the drive for excellence for all pupils - and staff. This means Donna O'Connor will lead Claydon Primary School and Mark Ismany will lead Claydon High School, in addition to this Mark Ismay will lead the 'Claydon Campus' in order to drive through links between the Primary School and the High School to benefit both schools and our local community. I am sure you will agree, a very exciting time.

May is always a busy month in school as there are various statutory assessments taking place. The week beginning the 13th May will see 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 additional 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 possibly 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 now optional end of Key Stage 1 SATs, and year 4 pupils in the statutory Multiplication Tables Check. All these assessments are a good national benchmark for our pupils and us as a school.

We have been delighted with the experiences the pupils have had this academic year, as 'Broader Experiences' continues to be one of our key curriculum drivers for our pupils here at Claydon. We know our children are capable of doing great things beyond school. We believe that at Claydon Primary our children learn best when they are offered exciting, memorable and immersive opportunities. We are passionate about ensuring that even from a younger age they are exposed to a

range of possibilities - we want to broaden their horizon and influence their aspirations. These fresh and broad experiences are aimed at developing semantic rather than purely episodic memory. This year has seen a range of experiences, trips and events on offer for the children, a few are listed below;

- Cross Country Event at the Royal Hospital School
- Jimmy's Farm trip
- Theatre trip to watch 'The Tale of Mr Tod'
- Sutton Hoo trip
- Christchurch Park trip
- Visit to Red House
- West Stow trip
- Trip to Suffolk One to watch a performance of 'Rock of Ages'
- Christmas Crafts at Barham Church
- Residential at Hilltop for Year 6 and Blaxhall for year 4
- Colchester Castle trip
- Opportunity to learn Ukulele in years 3 and 4 for all pupils
- Bowling
- Swimming for years 4, 5 and 6
- and a huge range of Sporting events have been attended by pupils (highlighted previously with our School Games Platinum Award)

A highlight again though has to be our return trip to Wembley Arena for our school choir - 40 children -, as they took part in 'Voice in a Million' along with over 5,000 other children. A truly memorable experience, that they will never, ever forget.

As this is my last term as Headteacher at Claydon Primary School I would like to take this opportunity to thank pupils, staff, Academy Committee members and the local community - including yourselves - for your support throughout my Headship at Claydon Primary School. It has been both an honour and a privilege to serve the school and the community and will forever hold a very special place in my heart.

I wish you, and the community all the very best for the future.

Kind regards

Louis Collins

Executive Headteacher