

## **HEADTEACHER'S WELCOME**



Dear applicant,

Thank you for your interest in the post of Teaching Assistant at Pye Bank CE Primary School. We believe that this is an exciting opportunity to join a committed, talented, enthusiastic and hardworking team of staff, which is very well placed for further development despite a recent set back when the school was judged as RI by OFSTED.

However, following our Church School inspection (SIAMs) in April 2018, when we were judged to be a good school, we feel confident that we can move our school to good and then to be an outstanding, world class school over the next three years.

We were thrilled to be judged as good within Foundation Stage and Personal development, behaviour and welfare.

Our potential to be outstanding comes from our amazing children, our committed staff, the diversity of our faith based community and our committed and aspirational parents. All of these factors make Pye Bank an exciting place to work and a fabulous learning community to belong to. All of these aspects give us a 'uniqueness' as a school, which will certainly help us to stand out for all the right reasons. The children were described very positively by both OFSTED and SIAMs.

**'Pupils are polite and well behaved. They get on well and are highly respectful to one another.'** (OFSTED Feb 2017)



I am absolutely thrilled as the Headteacher to introduce you to Pye Bank CE Primary School. It is a fantastic school, set in the heart of Pitsmoor and this is an exciting time for us. We have introduced a new and exciting curriculum and we encourage innovative practice and creativity. The curriculum is designed to serve the very diverse community of which we are so proud. We have a stable staff team and OFSTED 2015 recognised the tremendous potential within our team:

**'The current staff show tremendous support for the school and its pupils. They share the leaders' vision and enthusiasm to create a truly effective school.'** (OFSTED 2015)

I feel privileged to have joined the school as the Headteacher in September 2014. I am an experienced Headteacher after 10 years leading schools. We are very proud of our school and what we achieve every day with our fabulous children. We are a school with the ambition to be outstanding. We are a school which will be outstanding.

We have a large leadership team and teacher coaches so that we are able to support all staff effectively and work in true partnership for the benefit of our children:

**'Strong focused leadership of the school rooted in Christian values that have set high expectations resulting in a clear focus to raise standards across school.'** (SIAMs April 2017)

Our aim is for every child to achieve at the highest level they can but it is also very important to us that all children feel safe, secure and HAPPY.



Our Christian ethos is very important to us and we encourage all members of our school community to live these values every day. Although we are a Church of England School, families and staff of all faiths are welcomed and valued equally. Our curriculum is reflective of our diversity. We have some key strengths in PE, Art and Music and children have a keen interest in RE. We take a topic approach to the wider curriculum and our ACE curriculum was recognised positively by OFSTED. We have a well-structured Maths curriculum and use the INSPIRE

Maths programme which is a good support for staff. We are also introducing Read Write Inc Spelling across school and will begin a new Vocabulary Instruction Programme in September. We aim for consistency but are also proactive in moving our practice forward. Pye Bank is a great place to learn.

### **Key strengths identified within our SIAMs Inspection were:**

- ✓ Relationships between the diverse school community which are rooted in the school's core Christian values of respect and love.
- ✓ The core Christian values being continually demonstrated by the pastoral support team and their focus on wellbeing

### **As a Christian Foundation School serving its community our mission is:**

"To inspire and challenge the bodies, minds and souls of all learners, within a secure community underpinned by Christian values where all find respect for themselves, their families and their traditions."

Please have a look at our values in detail within our virtual office section on the website.

We are on a journey towards outstanding, within all areas of school life and want to ensure that our amazing children receive the best education possible so that they can go out into the world and achieve their dreams. We have wonderful a staff who all love to be at Pyebank and a strong legacy of good practice.

We have a wonderful physical and learning environment, which everyone who visits us now always comments on. We are particularly proud of our Lavender Field (School Hall) which forms the heart of our school and our developing forest and wildlife pond areas.

The thing that makes our school most special is the children. They are warm, welcoming and aspirational. They love to learn and are showing a fabulous attitude to school life, turning up with a smile each day for others.

***Our staff are important to us. We believe motivated staff do the best job they can. We care about our staff and believe the little things matter. We have for the past year given additional PPA time to all teachers and also support your wellbeing in small ways: we hold a staff breakfast every Friday morning and we provide tea and coffee for all staff, we give all staff a free lunch on Mondays and the Monday Motivator is popular. All teachers are supported by a phase leader and have PPA with their year group partner. All teachers have an IPAD.***



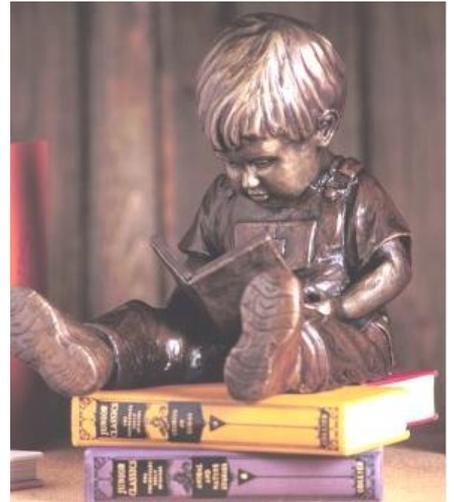
***Learning is at the heart of ALL we do and our aim is for every child to achieve excellence and to reach for the stars.***

We are absolutely committed to working in partnership with our parents and our community and will be looking at new and exciting opportunities and possibilities to extend this work even further as the year progresses.

The poem below reflects how we feel about our partnership with our wonderful parents:

**The Sculptors**

***I dreamed I stood in a studio,  
And watched two sculptors there.  
The clay they used was a child's mind,  
And they fashioned it with care.  
One was a teacher; the tools used,  
Were books and music and art.  
One, a parent with guiding hands,  
A gentle and loving heart.  
Day after day the teacher toiled,  
With a touch both deft and skilled.  
The parent laboured side by side,  
And all the values filled.  
And when at last their task was done,  
They looked at what they'd wrought.  
The beautiful shape of the precious child,  
Could neither be sold nor bought.  
And each agreed it would have failed,  
If one had worked alone.  
For behind the parent stood the school,  
And behind the teacher, home.***



I look forward to meeting you if you choose to apply for the post or visit the school, and look forward to working with you if you were successful in your application. Please feel very welcome to come and visit the school, meeting children and staff.

Yours faithfully

*M. Andrews*

Maureen Andrews

Headteacher