



# ST.PATRICK'S

## CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

**Hullenedge Road, Elland, West Yorkshire HX5 0QY**

**Headteacher: Mrs L Lomas**

Tel No (01422) 373104 Fax No (01422) 373651

Email: [admin@st-patricks.calderdale.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-patricks.calderdale.sch.uk) [www.stpatselland.org.uk](http://www.stpatselland.org.uk)

Friday 6th December 2019

### **Strategic Update**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Wow! The end of term is almost here – and what a wonderful term it has been! From Star Dome visits to cross country events to Rievaulx's class residential to Robinwood – our children have been very busy learning and experiencing lots of new things! We are delighted with the uptake from our families to our 'Seesaw' platform in Rievaulx which has allowed us to share with you all the wonderful events, learning and activities taking place in school! In the new year, this will be extended to all classes!

There has been much going on strategically at St. Patrick's and, as leaders, we are delighted at some of the new training and strategies that have been implemented throughout school this term. We have some exciting new ventures in English where we are now working closely with our local English Hub, based at Greetland, which has allowed us to research and implement a new phonics scheme – *Read, Write, Inc. Phonics*. All staff who deliver these sessions to our pupils have now completed their relevant training and we will also receive regular support days from the English Hub throughout this academic to further develop and embed the changes within our phonics teaching and learning. Miss Hudson will be taking on the role of Reading Leader for the phonics scheme.

Some of our Early Years staff have also undertaken Nuffield Early Language Intervention (NELI) training which will enhance the support we are able to offer some of our youngest pupils.

Alongside this, Miss Hudson has continued to undertake PEARL (Performance Enhancement and Research Leadership) training to support English and has been working alongside a Specialist Leader of Education in order to enhance the provision for English, including reading, across school.

In maths, Mrs Nutbrown and Mrs Mitchell are now part of a Teacher Research Group (TRG) through the West Yorkshire Maths Hub and are attending regular training and development days for this. This will support our mathematics teaching across school as a part of our 'Maths Mastery' approach. We had a very successful 'Maths Month' in November, where pupils tried new challenges, developed and applied thinking and completed a range of activities – including a 'Maths Puzzle Day' which was excellent fun for everyone! Many of you also joined us in school to experience a maths lesson – thank you for your support.

Mrs Lomas has undertaken Executive Leadership Training at Stanbrook Abbey in November and is continuing to support St Malachy's Catholic School and the staff there.

There will be some staffing changes for the spring term 2020. Mrs Gorin, who has worked at St. Patricks for 5 years, has secured a new role as a Senior Learning Mentor at another school in Calderdale. We would like to thank Mrs Gorin for her dedicated work and support for our pupils as well as staff over the years and she will be greatly missed by us all. We wish her lots of luck for her new role!

Mrs Warren has been our long term supply teacher in class Bolton this term and she has worked tirelessly

to support all of our Early Years and Key Stage One children to settle into their new classes and to make fantastic progress. Mrs Warren will be leaving us at Christmas to start a new role in January and we wish her all the very best for this.

We are delighted to announce that we have appointed a permanent Early Years Leader who will take up this post and be the new class teacher for class Bolton from January 2020. Mrs Fearnley is an experienced Early Years teacher and leader with a wealth of expertise and we are very excited for her to join our team.

Finally, we would like to thank our families, friends of the school and the community for your continued support this term. Thank you to those who supported the 'Secret Shop' – from shopping, wrapping and selling your efforts are always greatly appreciated by us and by the children!

We look forward to seeing you all at our Christmas service and celebration which will take place at St. Patrick's Church on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm. This will be led by our Key Stage Two pupils who would greatly appreciate your support.

We wish you all a very happy and holy Christmas and a peaceful new year. School will reopen at 8:50am on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

God Bless,

Mrs Lomas and Miss Hudson