



MAYFIELD CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

Wednesday 12th December 2018



Last week's attendance was **96.33%**
Red (under 92%) Amber (92-96%)
Green (above 96%)

This term our value
is **Generosity**

Au revoir Mrs Barker!

Sadly Mrs Barker will be leaving us at the end of this term as unfortunately her parents are in need of her care in France.

Mrs Barker has been a highly valued member of our staff team for 14 years. She has supported many children in her role as a class TA as well as teaching our KS2 children French lessons each week.

We are very lucky to have had her expertise and I know that the children have enjoyed their lessons. We will miss her caring nature and willingness to go above and beyond to support staff and children alike.

Our prayers are with her and her family as she makes this difficult transition.

Thank you Mrs Barker for all that you have done for Mayfield CE Primary School.

School Uniform

Please ensure that your child is wearing the correct school uniform to school. We have noticed a number of coloured socks and trainers being worn as well as KS2 children forgetting their ties. Please see our website for the correct uniform list. Thank you.

Open Afternoon

Parents/carers are welcome to come along to our open afternoon from 2.30pm on Friday. This is an opportunity to talk with your child about their learning this term, look at their books and see the classroom environment. Please note that the session ends just after 3pm as class teachers will need to get the children ready to go home.

Christmas Lunch

If you have not already done so, please ensure that you order your child's Christmas meal. Please contact Mrs Gould in the office if you require an order form. Thank you.

Celebration Assemblies

Friday 14th December

The children learning to play brass instruments will be performing for the whole school under direction from Mr Lacey.

Safeguarding

The school Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is Miss Warren.

The Deputy DSL is Mrs Martin. Please let us know if you have any concerns about the welfare of any children at Mayfield CE Primary.

Aspire Federation Christingle Service

Monday 17th December 2018

6pm at St Dunstan's Church

We hope that as many children and families as possible will be able to support the Aspire Federation Christingle Service. The children will learn about the meaning of each part of the Christingle through making one before the service. Thank you to the Middle House for donating the oranges for the service. It is much appreciated.

If your child is in Y1—Y6, please bring them to school between 5.35pm and 5.45pm in their school uniform. You can then go and find a seat in the church and the children will walk down together with their teacher. Robins' Class are very welcome to attend the service but we ask that they go straight to the church and remain with their parents please. Robins' children will not hold Christingles in the church as they will have had an opportunity to do this under closer supervision in the classroom.

We will be dismissing the children from church at the end of the service. Please be patient and ensure that you have informed your child's class teacher before taking your child from the church so that we can ensure their safety. Thank you for your co-operation with this. We look forward to seeing you at the service to join us at the special time of year.



Charities



Thank you to everyone who supported the NSPCC through sponsoring children to take part in our school danceathon. Together we raised a fantastic £642.65.



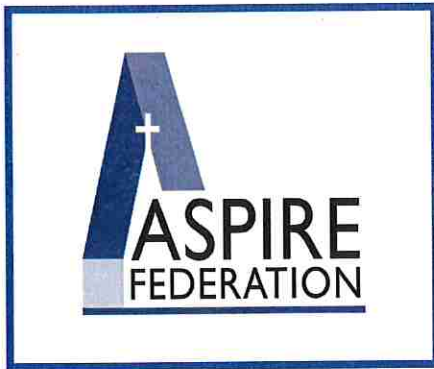
Children In Need

The children's copper coin Pudsey collection amounted to £104.91. Thank you to the school council for organising this fundraising idea for Children In Need

The Children's Society

There will be a Christingle candle collection box in each classroom until the end of term if you would like to make a small donation. The Children's Society have provided the candles and tape that will be used to make our Christingles for the service at St. Dunstan's.





Aspire Federation Update

from David Robson

(Chair of Governors)

One of the three core functions of any Governing Board (GB) is '**Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction**'. In the past, the strategic direction of primary and secondary education was left to the Government and, to a lesser extent, the local education authority. Schools would adopt the pathway laid out before them with little scope for feedback and adjustment. The political mood has changed and more of the responsibility for strategic direction is being passed down to the GB's. Governors and trustees are frequently told that they must be strategic but it can be unclear what this means for schools and their organisations as there has been a sparsity of information and guidance until recently. Even then, much of the direction lacks clarity and illustration leaving governors confused. It is even more daunting to those governors who might never have had a strategic role or training in this respect. So what does it involve and what might be the consequences?

Foremost it is important that all members of the GB understand the education sector, its priorities and concerns, and the need to consult with stakeholders. Other aspects of the strategic role which governors and trustees need to be aware of include managing risk and evaluation effectiveness. The strategy should provide a robust framework for setting priorities, creating accountability and monitoring progress in realising the organisation's vision. It will involve the initial stages of gathering information on stakeholders' interests and requirements, applying analytical techniques such as PESTLE and SWOT* methodology, defining the medium to long-term strategic goals, and developing the improvement priorities which are understood by all in the organisation.

Processes need to be established to monitor and review progress against agreed strategic goals and to refresh the vision and goals periodically and as necessary, including at key growth stages or should the performance of the organisation, or associate members, drop.

Some existing governors will feel that they don't have the skills to undertake this role whilst other governors may have the strategic skills but come from sectors other than education, and even if from within that sector, might not be familiar with primary education, so it is important to have a school, or federation, leader who is responsible for the translation of the vision and strategy into workable operational plans, including the successful implementation of those plans, and, as I mentioned in my previous article, this falls heavily upon the shoulders of the Executive Headteacher (EHT). The EHT is obliged also to have the same analytical skills as expected of those on the GB in setting out the future strategy. There is no doubt that the future of our schools represents a significant challenge in the current education environment but with the right people on board I am certain that it can not only be met but also lead to improvements and opportunities for all those stakeholders involved in the federation.

In my next and final article I shall examine how these changes impact upon the various stakeholders and to what degree.

* Political, Economic, Social, Technological, Legal and Environmental (PESTLE) factors which can help determine the strategic direction.

Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) within the organisation which need to be considered when formulating the strategic plan.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

NB—Changes and any new dates are recorded in red font.

TERM 2

Friday 14th December—Open Afternoon from 2.30pm

Friday 14th December—Friends Christmas Disco (KS1 4pm, KS2 5.30pm)

Monday 17th December—Friends Secret Santa morning

Monday 17th December at 6pm —Aspire Federation Christingle Service at St Dunstan's Church

Tuesday 18th December—School Christmas Lunch

Wednesday 19th December—Last Day of Term 2 (3.15pm)

TERM 3

Thursday 3rd January—INSET DAY—School Closed for pupils

Friday 4th January—INSET DAY—School Closed for pupils

Monday 7th January—First Day of Term 3 for pupils

