

Another Year of Purpose, Passion and Success at Pattishall CE Primary School

As another academic year draws to a close, we are reflecting with pride on an incredible year at Pattishall CE Primary School. Our small but mighty school continues to achieve remarkable things, both in and beyond the classroom, whilst remaining firmly at the heart of our village community.

This year began with exciting developments across the school site. In January, we launched our new logo and uniform, celebrating our rich history, current success and bright future. Earlier in the year, *The Fort* opened: a unique outdoor learning space featuring a climbing frame, storytelling throne and our much-loved Pattishall Chapel. At Easter, an outdoor gym was installed, and during the summer term we welcomed new air conditioning in the hall, helping us stay cool through the heatwave and ensuring performances and events could continue as planned. Over the summer holiday, a brand-new kitchen is being installed so that from September all meals will be freshly cooked on site and served straight to children's plates.

Sport and physical activity have once again been a huge strength of the school. Sports Day was a particular highlight, with the traditional Tug o' War proving as popular as ever. Across the year we participated in an astonishing 36 competitions in a 38-week school year, regularly finishing in the top three and securing some fantastic victories. Our pupils reached both the county cricket finals and county cross-country finals while also enjoying opportunities in karate, fencing, boccia, lacrosse and the TSC Mini Marathon. This commitment to physical education, sport and competition has been recognised with the prestigious **Northamptonshire School Games Gold Award**. We are proud to say that at PPS, we play to win, but we are equally proud that organisers consistently tell us our children are among the kindest, most polite and respectful competitors they meet.

Learning beyond the classroom has been another major feature of the year. Reception joined Years 1 and 2 for a memorable visit to Holdenby House, whilst all children participated in the Rhino Olympic Sports event. Years 3 and 4 enjoyed a fascinating trip to the British Museum and visited Franklin's Gardens for a stadium tour and the chance to play on the famous pitch. Year 5 travelled to the National Space Centre and even made pasta sauce from scratch as part of their Design and Technology learning.

For Year 6, their final year at PPS has been packed with unforgettable experiences. They completed a six-week sailing course, took part in a Royal Shakespeare Company Macbeth workshop in Stratford-upon-Avon, played rugby at Franklin's Gardens, continued their Forest School adventures and swam at Towcester to develop water rescue and endurance skills. Alongside Year 5, they delighted audiences with their production of *Bugsy Malone*. Their leavers' celebrations included a trip to Top Jump, a fabulous prom and a silent disco generously supported by [The Silent Disco Project](#). A particularly moving moment came at the Leavers' Service, when pupils "rang out" retiring Deputy Headteacher Miss Brice after 27 years of dedicated service to PPS. As Tower Captain at Maidwell, this was an especially meaningful tribute.

Music and performance have flourished throughout the school. Our choir proudly represented the school at Young Voices, with 6000 other children, and Picnic in the Park, performing a wonderful

selection of songs including numbers from *Mathilda* and *Wicked*. The school also enjoyed a surprise whole-school silent disco and talented performers from Rocksteady delighted families with their end-of-year concert (we have four rock bands here at PPS!).

Academically, our pupils continue to excel. Reception achieved a Good Level of Development well above national averages. The proportion of children passing the phonics screening check exceeded national figures, while an impressive 59% of Year 4 pupils achieved full marks in the Multiplication Tables Check compared with 37% nationally. In Year 6, attainment in reading, writing and maths was **significantly** above national outcomes, reflecting both the hard work of our pupils and the dedication of our staff.

As we look ahead, we are delighted that our September Reception intake is oversubscribed and that our recent Stay and Play sessions have helped new families begin their journey with us. We remain incredibly proud of everything our pupils achieve, from sailing, singing and sporting success to academic excellence and acts of kindness.

