

SPC Annual Parish Meeting – 20 April 2016 – Annex D

Sparsholt School – Lindsay McCarthy

Thank you for inviting me to the meeting. I have now been the head teacher at Sparsholt C of E Primary for nearly 2½ years. We currently have 130 pupils on role and 5 classes. I am very well supported by a hardworking, talented team. I am pleased to say that we continue to be a popular choice of school for our local families.

Some of the highlights of this year have included;

- Being judged as an **outstanding school at our 'Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools'** in November. The judgement really reflected the strength between the Church Community and the school. Rev. Jax, The Church Wardens and the Church Community as a whole are very supportive and welcoming to the school and this has enabled the school to continue to grow as a church school.
- **We are also very proud of the provision we are able to offer our pupils.** Our school day finishes officially at 3.30pm but for many of our children that is not the end of the school day. Our after school provision has secured us the Gold Mark for Sport. This term our pupils are enjoying Rounders, Tennis, Athletics, Cricket, Lacrosse Rugby, Art and Dance.
On a Monday we have 74 children voluntarily staying to take part in after school sport – 57% of the school!
- The **curriculum** that we deliver is also completely unique to our school. We have taken the National Curriculum and with the support of a specialist curriculum consultant, reorganised it. It means that our pupils access challenging, fun projects which links subjects together but also ensures they are studying subjects like Geography and History at a greater depth. Our projects have included the titles, Growing Mad!, Posted to New Zealand, Light Up the World, Animal Ark and Words of Wisdom.

Next Steps

- I am a great believer in creating and sustaining a **quality learning environment** for children and staff. A big project that we have started is the refurbishment of our classrooms and playground. We were very grateful to receive the PCC Fete donation of £500 which enabled us to upgrade our pond fencing and gate and treat the weeds. The support of Sparsholt College also enabled us to clear the pond area and make it a usable education space.
- We have now moved onto the school site to continue the refurbishment work. We want to paint the interior of the building: 1 class was completed at Easter. Replace carpets, blinds, table and chairs and storage furniture. We are working on one classroom at a time and hope to have two classrooms completed by the end of the summer holiday.
The playground space is limited, so again we are hoping to make some improvements to this space too. We are very fortunate to have amazing support from FOSS our parent fundraising group and a charity called the Girdlers. With the funds they raise

and using some of our school budget we hope our school refurbishment will progress quite quickly.

Finally

A date for your diary – Weds 13th July and Thursday 14th July, weather permitting, we will be holding our annual outdoor school production. We would like to invite you to join us on the school field for the event. Please bring a chair or a rug and come and enjoy the event with the school. You are all most welcome.