

Laughton Community Primary School report for Parish Council AGM 28.04.2021

It has been a challenging year for the school with the ever changing guidance and restrictions due to Covid, particularly as schools found out at exactly the same time as parents and carers. However, in September we were delighted that all the children returned to school and our curriculum was adapted to support their reintegration and wellbeing.

From January 2021 we created a Hub for the vulnerable children and those of key workers from both Firle and Laughton schools, for the next lockdown. This was a huge success and brought our federated schools even closer in supporting one another. Apart from the 2 lockdowns for schools, since March last year we have only needed to close 1 group due to a Covid case. We continue to be vigilant in our risk assessment procedures.

We have had the challenge of reduced staffing due to staff needing to self-isolate because of family members and then becoming positive during their period of isolation. This has impacted on costs for our school as the government funding was not applicable for us.

We learnt a lot from last year's lock down and home learning was hugely improved this time around. Teachers worked very hard to build on the feedback we had received, to create a balance of live lessons, directed activities and a selection of alternative tasks. They had daily contact via Zoom with families and we made great use of our learning platform to share work and communicate. We had a lot of positive feedback from parents and carers about the home learning, range of tasks and support available, which sustained morale.

The LSA have been hugely supportive and continue to fundraise for the school and provide fun experiences for the children. We have had to adapt seasonal activities and some of the new arrangements brought in were more effective so we will keep them, such as our children's Christmas and Mother's Day shop.

We are well supported by the Laughton Village Shop and grateful to them for collecting for us and supporting events e.t.c.

We were delighted to be able to provide open sessions for new parents (with restricted access) in October and November and have a confirmed 15 places to offer for September 2021. We currently have 103 children on roll.

We have worked on our curriculum to ensure it supports children in developing independent skills through a shared topic focus. There has been a lot more cooking, welly walks and outdoor learning to enable the children to reengage with learning after so much time at home. Topics have been set around a text and have included, 'The Long Walk to Freedom', Dinosaurs, Carnivals. We are currently using the book 'The Lost Words' for our Country Garden topic.

We are looking forward to the summer terms and hope that we will get a chance to celebrate altogether in July, an end to the restrictions that have been in place for the last 15 months.

Wishing you all the best.

Rachel West- Executive Headteacher