

Farmborough Church Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr Darren Roberts

24.04.25

Report for the Annual Parish Meeting April 2025

It has been an extremely busy and exciting year once again. So much has happened in the course of a year as we continue to strive to make our school a vibrant and happy place for children and staff to flourish. This was recognised in November 2024 when we were finally visited again by Ofsted for an inspection – twelve and a half years after the previous one. We were pleased to have a very successful inspection and delighted with the extremely positive feedback e.g. “*The school’s wider offer for pupils is exceptional. Pupils thrive through the broad and rich experiences the school provides.*” The report was a credit to the hard work of all in our school community.

Once again our children performed very well overall in the national SATs and phonics tests, with excellent outcomes that were all above the national averages. Whilst academic achievement is extremely important, we always aim to make our curriculum interesting and enjoyable, so actively look for opportunities that will enhance learning and ensure that time spent in these formative years in school is relevant, positive and memorable. Some of the highlights over the past year include:

- Special events such as Book Week, STEM Fortnight, musical theatre performances, Easter workshops, the Three Towers Music Festival, outdoor activity days and visitors bringing everything from calves to police cars.
- Participation in a wide range of sporting events including netball, tag rugby, swimming, gymnastics, cross-country, dance, football and athletics, with a lot of success including local area champions in cross country, football league winners and qualification for the regional sportshall athletics finals.
- A wide variety of trips to places such as The Beacon residential centre, The Roman Baths, The Lifeskills Centre, Bath University Sports Village, The Wild Place, Longleat and Stonehenge.

Of special mention as well is our School Community Choir for everyone from children in Reception to Grandparents, which began last year and has gone from strength to strength.



Chief Executive Officer: Mrs Emily Massey

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Our school grounds are a fantastic resource and we have again further developed these in the past year with extensive tree planting, along with additions to our Forest School Area thanks to the amazing work of Mrs Gray and her family. The poly tunnel that we were able to purchase thanks to a fantastic Parish Council Grant a couple of years ago which was given to our School Association, continues to provide a place for pupils to be involved in growing fruit, vegetables, flowers and other plants. Our outdoor spaces greatly enhance our curriculum and all of our pupils benefit from our Forest School as well as the children at Farmborough Pre-School. We are very grateful that our School Association has again been successful in receiving another Parish Council grant in the past year and this has been used to purchase an outdoor stage and performance area, which will be installed during the whitsun half-term. We have a lot of creative performers in our school, as was evident in our recent annual talent shows and they will get a lot of enjoyment and activity from using this area at break and lunchtimes. At a time when funding continues to be so tight, we are thankful for the support of the parish council in projects, as it makes a big difference to be able to add these enhancements for the benefit of the children.

We are also lucky to receive great support from other areas of our community through volunteers who help in classes or with clubs, the parents who organise our School Association group, our governors and Rev Guy and members of All Saints' Church. Where possible, we try to give something back by supporting local events and organisations such as the Flower Show, the Pre-School and the Three Towers' Music Festival along with those further afield, which has included fundraising again for Julian House, the Poppy Appeal, Guide Dogs and Tutela Africa.

Looking ahead our focus remains on maintaining and improving standards of attainment and progress for all children, providing a wide range of opportunities to support their learning and being able to meet the needs of our school community whilst trying to overcome the key challenges of both funding in general and supporting the increasing number of pupil with Special Educational Needs.

I am privileged to lead a school of fantastic pupils and a skilled and dedicated staff team. I look forward to continued success in the future and thank you all for your support.

Darren Roberts, Headteacher, 24th April 2025