

Parish Council Report on the previous 12 months for Broadwas CE Primary School May 2023

What has been significant for us over the past year and what do we feel is important for next year? How can the Parish Council Support us?

Significant issues over the last 12 months

- During the last 12 months the school has felt more like the school we used to be like. This is due to the absence of COVID and the movement back to a 'normal' way of teaching children.
- During the Autumn Term we focused on the development of the curriculum, working on plugging any further gaps or difficulties children had and moving back to trips, sporting events and celebrations in school and church with parents.
- This year we were able to hold a Harvest Festival in school. The first time for nearly 3 years. It was wonderful to see the community back together again and sharing the message of Harvest with each other. We were also able to hold a Nativity performance and a Christmas service in church with parents and children. Again, this helped cement the links between the Parish Church and the School Community.
- We have had an active PTFA who have been organising events in school such as discos, non-uniform days, and film nights. The children have loved these and it continues to raise much needed funds for the school. Thanks to the Village Hall for their support with the events.
- We have been active in supporting charities in school including The Royal British Legion, Children in Need, Comic Relief, British Red Cross, Red Nose Day, Christmas Present Appeal, Hello Yellow Mental Health, Worcester Foodbank and many, many more. Each class has chosen a named charity and we have had significant events supporting the Air Ambulance and an animal rescue charity.
- Our School Council is very active, meeting half a term and helping shape the development of the school. We also have very keen Computing Ambassadors who help test and teach ICT in school.
- Catch Up support is still being provided to children who have found the pandemic a problem. This will continue throughout the Summer term.
- Sporting events have gone from strength to strength. We have attended football, cross country and netball events with many of the cluster schools. We have also taken part in Mini Olympics at The Chantry for Reception and Key Stage 1 children. We also had a Sports Day with parents last summer and we aim to do this again, with the support of the PTFA this year.
- After school clubs continue to be run by staff to support the children's interest in non core subjects. We currently have cricket, computing, chess, construction and gardening clubs all running.

- SEND needs and support have continued to rise over the last 12 months. The school is continuing to face a challenge to try and meet the needs of children with ASD and ADHD in an ever increasingly financially difficult environment.
- Mental Health remains a significant issue and challenge for the school. Many pupils and parents are struggling and school has become the front line of support for these people. Support from LA and NHS is patchy and the school is continuing to work with the Mental Health Board to try and support schools in Worcester with better training and advice.
- School continues to develop the curriculum and are working on each subject over the next few years to develop and increase the rich and stimulating curriculum. We are now refining and developing the topics we teach and presenting a key local theme to the learning the children do.
- The school are working on building project ideas in order to develop the school for the future. This could include the development of the front of the building, extending Year 5 and 6 classroom and also developing the Reception area. We are awaiting advice and support from The Diocese on when this work will be able to start.
- The school has a new server and an online cloud based system for storing information. We also continue to develop our ICT requirements through programmable robots and new laptops. The financial impact is still a considerable burden.
- We had a wonderful Jubilee picnic and a great Coronation Big Lunch on the school grounds. The first whole school event for over 3 years. We have planted a new Black Pear Tree in the Jubilee Garden. Work now begins on developing the Jubilee Garden into a Spiritual Garden for all of our children. We also had a fabulous end of year play from Year 5 / 6 based on Oliver Twist and a Leavers Party for our Year 6 children.
- The school is also looking at a possible amalgamation with BumbleBees Day Nursery and the opportunity to join an Academy. This is a long process and the school has begun the journey in earnest.

Significant Issues for next year

- Continued rise in SEND numbers
- Continued rise in the support of Mental Health in the community.
- Demands of a small budget that is getting squeezed smaller every year.
- Academisation and amalgamation with Pre School.
- The need for more pupils to maintain a fully functioning and flourishing school. Need to raise numbers in school to allow the school in the long term to survive.

Many thanks
James Dennis