

Holme St. Cuthbert School - Ofsted Inspection

Report by: Shelagh Daniel

Our Ofsted inspection visit was held at the end of March. Mr David Earley, our Inspector for the day, was impressed by the school and wished the children another good crop of potatoes from the school garden this year!

In the report he said, "Holme St. Cuthbert School is a good and improving school with some outstanding features. Parents think very highly of the school and the family ethos ensures that all are extremely well cared for within a safe and secure environment. Pupils achieve well, progress for pupils is good and improving because teaching is good and the curriculum is stimulating."

"Pupils personal and spiritual, moral, social and cultural development are outstanding. Pastoral care, guidance and support are also outstanding. Behaviour is excellent and the good attendance reflects the great pleasure that pupils gain from their education. The pupils have a very strong sense of responsibility for helping each other and for contributing to the community. Given their good achievement, excellent attitudes and social skills, the children are very well prepared for their future life."

"Teaching is good. Lessons are usually lively



Back L-R: Annabell Armstrong, Harris, Lee & Shelagh Daniel, Head Teacher
Front L-R: Emma, Cara, Andrew & Rowan

and interesting and teachers use assessment well so that work set is appropriately challenging for pupils of different ages and abilities. The good curriculum inspires pupils learning and is planned well to exploit pupils interests and effectively meet their differing needs."

"Leadership and management are good. The Head teacher and staff form a highly committed team, sharing a very clear vision for raising standards and improving provision. Governance is good and the governors' good knowledge of the school enables them to help

shape its direction."

Two areas were identified for improvement. Provide more opportunities for pupils to extend their skills in literacy and numeracy by using them in other subjects.

Increase the opportunities for subject coordinators to check teaching and learning in order to make improvements.

The governors were aware that these needed improvement and the School Improvement plan already has action plans in place.

Annabell Armstrong, Chair of Governors said, "The commitment put

into the school from the staff, parents and governors shows through in this report. Our Headteacher Shelagh Daniel has been here for 15 months, and she has built on the strong foundations that were already in place. Well done to everyone"

Mr Earley's letter to the children said how he had enjoyed his day at Holme St. Cuthbert School. He said they were very good at helping each other and ensuring that everyone has lots to do at playtime. Having inspected our vegetable garden, he said he hoped we have a good crop of potatoes this year.

Mayors Report

This month saw the Town Council re-elected, unopposed for the next four years due to a lack of nominees coming forward to stand, with the exception of Angus Emmerson who has filled the vacant seat following the resignation earlier this year of long standing councillor Gus Proud.

Your full Council are, Bill Allison, Christine Baty, Sharla Burns, Angus Emmerson, Stephen Hart, Bill Jefferson, Tony Markley, Margaret Snaith, Elaine Wannop, Alaric Weightman and Graham Wilkinson. If you have concerns about matters within the town, contact any one of the above or the Town Clerk on 31128. We are all here to serve the public to the best of our ability.

The members re-elected Councillor Graham Wilkinson as Chairman/Mayor for a further year, with Councillor Tony Markley as Deputy. There were appointments to outside bodies and town committees.

The Chairman announced he had presented the trophies at the end of season pool night.

Correspondence dealt

with included flooding at the allotments. A request to plant a memorial tree on the edge of the Green near the old tennis hut. Consultation on a new Parish Charter. Obstruction of the prom steps from stones washed up off the shore and a request for the use of Silloth Green.

Reports were received from various representatives including the Primary School who have taken delivery of a mini bus. North Allerdale Partnership are allowing things to be done whereas over the past three years stumbling blocks caused hold-ups. Silloth Health Matters Group has received new funding. Solway C.T.C. now have a new Finance Manager. An Ofsted inspection is due shortly and results are looking brighter than last year, however predicted numbers of pupils for the September term are slightly down on last year.

Requests were received for funding from Silloth Football Club and Solway Wood Carvers, these were agreed.

The accounts for the year end 31st March have been approved by the Council.



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