

Governors' Annual Report for Lower Peover APCM 2021/22

This year continued to be another challenging year for all at Lower Peover C.E. Primary School.

During May, the outdoor restrictions were lifted for schools meaning the children could play freely again together outside.

Mrs Dean continued her online 'zoom' surgeries to continue the open communications opportunities for parents of all year groups.

June became a month of two halves – Year 5 saw a class closure due to COVID, whilst the new reception (2022) transition parents' meetings were held on the playground. Many positive things took place as we began to see some normality - school sports took place (a closed event to parents), Year 6 had their 'treat day out' at the Crocky Trail and FLPS held their virtual Campfest to raising funds for school.

In July, we were thankful that the Year 6 Leavers Service was able to go ahead and was held outside. The children and school welcomed families to celebrate and enjoy the leavers service that the children had put together. This was a wonderful morning that was enjoyed by everyone.

At the end of term, we said goodbye to Kathy McIntyre as she retired from Kids Club. It would be a new era from September with Sally looking after wrap around care for Premier Education.

The summer was witness to the celebration of Miss Slattery's marriage. She would be known as Mrs. Leach from September.

There was a real buzz as children and teachers returned to school for the new school term in September. We welcomed Mrs. Barry to the school office administration job share role with Mrs. Bracegirdle.

We saw the return of the school Church Services and were able to welcome families to be part of the celebrations and give thanks during Harvest Festival.

October was revolutionary – a temporary swimming pool was erected on the school playground for several weeks! This gave every child in Key Stage 2 the opportunity to learn to swim or improve their swimming skills. It was a huge success and thoroughly enjoyed by the children.

The children enjoyed a visit from the Bishop of Stockport when he visited our school. They gave him a tour of the school and shared with him the school values and our Christian distinctiveness.

Year 5 had a Pilgrim Day and visited Chester Cathedral and Year 3 children went to Foxhole for their residential trip.

Parents and staff also enjoyed a social fundraising evening organised by Friends of Lower Peover School (FLPS), with the Autumn ball at Toft Cricket Club.

Sadly, at the end of half term, Mrs. Bracegirdle decided it was time for her to retire. Prior to working in the office for the last 10 years, Mrs. Bracegirdle was the school cook for nearly 30 years. She had well and truly earned her retirement and would be missed by staff, children and parents. Thanks and appreciation

from Governors was extended to Janice for her long and dedicated service to the school. We all wished her a long and happy retirement.

We welcomed Mrs. Caroline Anderson to replace Janice in the office and work alongside Mrs. Barry.

The next half term saw Mrs. Adams leave her role as HLTA (higher level teaching assistant) and welcomed Miss Jess Dawkins as a new HLTA.

Children from Key Stage 2 were able to participate in an inter school tournament including football and a dance workshop at Holmes Chapel High School.

Church Services continued in the approach to Christmas. Reception took part in their Nativity play; a Christingle Service for Year 1 & 2 children and our Key Stage 2 children held their 9 Lessons and Carol Service.

More fundraising for the school - FLPS held an outdoor Christmas Market which was a great success and very well attended by families, children and staff.

The New Year was challenging again with the impact of COVID. The school struggled with staff absence and pupil absence was extremely high in January.

As we continued into February, things began to settle down in school. Classes began to return to the normal attendance figures, and Year 4 were delighted that they could go on their residential to Burwardsley.

March brought the end of COVID restrictions. Periodically, there continues to be several children and staff absent and school has managed this very well.

Over the last few weeks, we have witnessed the return of several school trips, World Book Day and Red Nose celebrations in school. School held the Sunflower Day recently, where the children wore yellow for the people of Ukraine. £859 was raised for the Red Cross.

As the end of term approached, the school Easter services were held in Church and once again we welcome families to enjoy the services that the children were part of.

We have said goodbye to Mrs. Perry who left her position at Lower Peover C.E. Primary School at Easter. Mrs. Perry had been a dedicated teacher in school for almost 12 years. We wished her good luck for the future and thanked her for her years of service to school; she will be missed by the children and staff. We have appointed Mrs. Laura McAree and she will take up a temporary post in Reception until the end of the Summer Term.

Mrs. Barry also left at Easter to take up a post at another local primary school, we wished her well in her new role too. She will be replaced by Mrs. Susan Tutt who will work with Mrs. Anderson.

On behalf of the Governing Body, I would like to thank Mrs Dean and the staff at Lower Peover C.E. Primary School for their endless dedication and hard work despite the challenges that COVID has brought.

There are currently 205 children on roll.