

# Another great year at Market Drayton Infant and Nursery School

## A summary from the Governors - July 2017

### Our pupils' achievements and our work to improve

- Our teachers know the importance of assessment to look for gaps in children's learning and build this in to their day to day teaching so that the children continue to move forward and make the best possible progress themselves. There have been some improvements in the outcomes at the end of Key Stage One (Year 2) this year, which makes the school in line with last year's national outcomes.
- At the end of Year 2, 78% of children have reached the expected standard in reading; 69% of children have reached the expected standard in writing; 79% of children have reached the expected standard in maths.
- The number of children passing the phonics screening check in Year 1 was 70% (compared to 85% last year's nationally); this will need to be an area to work on as the children move in to Year 2.
- At the end of the foundation stage, 70% of our children attained a 'good level of development' (compared to 65% last year nationally).

### An exciting curriculum

- The children in Nursery learnt about Chinese New Year! They had running races, just like the animals had a swimming race. They went to the school hall and copied some dragon dancing, making sure they bent down low and reached up high and finished off by having some Chinese food to taste.
- In Reception the children have enjoyed Fascinating Fridays. They have done lots of their learning outside. For example, they have thought about which sound maker would make the best siren and which material would be waterproof to make a coat for the fireman. They have explored the outdoor area in Grubby Gruffaloes and have learnt how to be safe by thinking about their responsibilities.
- In Year one the children did a topic 'Fly me to the moon'. Within this topic they learnt about the first man on the moon, Neil Armstrong, and why he was famous. They went on a trip to RAF Cosford looking at all the rockets and other aircraft and they enjoyed the planetarium coming into school to teach them about the night sky.
- Year 2 went to the seaside! They visited Llandudno and it was great fun! During the trip to Llandudno they caught the tram up to the top of the Great Orme - it was very windy! They also took a stroll down to the bottom of the pier, where they used a compass to see what they could see in the North, East, South and West. They finished their day watching a fantastic Punch and Judy show.



## Our strategic plan and challenges ahead

The governors reviewed their strategic plan for a three-year period last year. This plan lists key objectives against each of our school aims, and includes commitments to a broad curriculum and to ensuring that the school is an inclusive one. Over the period of the plan we want to:

- Significantly expand our forest garden area and encourage and develop opportunities for community use of school facilities

The plan also identifies two major challenges currently facing governors and describes our approach to them:

- The Local Authority projects a shortage of school places within Market Drayton over the next few years. We will work proactively with the other town schools to ensure there is adequate provision within their own community for all children in our school catchment area.
- The government intends that all schools become academies, and form Multi Academy Trusts. Governors are exploring various options, in cooperation with our fellow schools in the Market Drayton Learning Partnership. We want to make the most of opportunities for furthering the visions of our school and the partnership while minimising the threats to them.



### Work within the Market Drayton Learning Partnership

**Transition** - transition between classes and between schools can be hard for children and within our trust we have worked really hard to make this a positive experience for children. To this end we have worked together as a group of schools to put together a transition policy which runs from entry to nursery through to the Grove School. This includes children passing on a 'pride' piece of work to the next class teacher.

**Art and Music Event** - to celebrate the end of a successful year the children from the Infant, Junior and Grove School came together to celebrate in an art and music event. This included art work on display with the theme of canals and a shared music event where each school performed individually and also some collective songs involving all schools. It was a great celebration of our children's talents.

**Counsellor** - The schools have jointly employed a counsellor this year to help with the pastoral support in each school and so that children can get the support they need socially and emotionally. The next **forum meeting** will be at the Junior School, at 6pm on Tuesday 7th November.

### School Governors

The governors' page on the school website tells you who we are, who appointed us, which committees we serve on, and our attendance record. It also lists our relevant business or other interests. It's our job to make sure that everything is in place so that children can do their best learning. We agree our strategic direction. We monitor and evaluate the school's work, acting as a critical friend to the headteacher and we are accountable for progress at the school. Our chair is Dr Allan Howells.

**Market Drayton Infant School - "An excellent, happy school where we enjoy learning"**