

# A great year with excellent progress at Market Drayton Infant School

## A summary from the Governors - July 2015



Running the mini-marathon as a charity fundraiser

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

- The school has achieved its best ever outcomes for the number of children reaching the expected level of attainment at the end of Year 2. In maths 94% reached Level 2b or higher, in reading 87%, and in writing 82%. Maths and writing have improved significantly since last year, and though national figures are not known yet, we are likely to be well above them.
- Next year we will further develop our work with Talk for Writing, Big Writing, Big Maths, and Building Learning Power - all of which have helped our children achieve so well.
- We continue to spend our extra funding for sports and PE effectively, with staff and children learning new skills, improving confidence, and increasing their enjoyment. The Youth Sport Trust's Gold Quality Mark is now within reach.
- The 'Wow' factor has been much in evidence, as subject link governors know from their visits. Mrs Scott playing Professor Know-it-all when the famous Drayton Ridgeback visited school and a dinosaur laid an egg in Reception is but one memorable example.

### Epic Launch for the Market Drayton Learning Partnership

We've been learning about collaboration in school this year, and that was a skill our children and teachers put to excellent use at the launch event for our cooperative partnership with the Junior School and Grove School. Here are all 1,200 of us setting world records for the most people making a gingerbread person, and the biggest collection of real gingerbreads. Our school is in the leg on the left. Earlier in the day our Year 1 and 2 children joined those from Years 3 to 9 and were split into 33 teams, with Year 10s acting as guides and helpers. Each team took part in a round of sports and PE activities and then either science, drama, art, fun with words and numbers, or singing. "It was brill. The science lab was the best." After we set the world records, the joint choir sang 'I've Got the Power in Me' and the infants at the front left no one in doubt that they meant it.





## Early Years

- Last September we took over the running of Longlands Pre-School nursery, at the invitation of its ruling committee. The transition was smooth and both nursery sites now run successfully as branches of one nursery with joint policies, ways of working, aims and values.
- Children from both sites came together for a fun 'Toddle in the Town Park' and family picnic.
- The Infant School is playing a leading role in delivering high-quality training for early years practitioners across North Shropshire. Funded by the government through the Teaching Alliance, this training will also feature in our own school improvement plan. Staff will be focussing on early talk, phonics, maths, and outdoor learning for the early years.

## A Values-driven School

Our school values remain those which grew out of wide consultation with everyone in the school community a few years ago. They are **Respect, Independence, Communication, and Enjoyment**. These values underpin our learning in school. As a member of the Market Drayton Learning Partnership, which is a cooperative trust, we subscribe to the cooperative values which you will find on the MDLP page of the school website. You will also see on the website how our work in school promotes British values, as defined by the government.

## School Governors



This year we altered the way our governing body is made up, following a new ruling from government (see our page on the school website for details of who we are and who appointed or elected us). We welcomed new members Ros Thomas and Ruth Jeffries, who will be the new Methodist minister in town. And at the end of this term we say goodbye to Sarah Turner, who has served as a much-valued staff governor.

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.

Chair of Governors John Hargreaves is usually in school during parents evenings and values the opportunity to speak with parents.

### Pupil Premium:

#### Extra support for your child

We have significantly fewer children registered for pupil premium funding than the national average. Governors believe some parents who receive benefits have not signed up for this funding and as a result their children are missing out on valuable financial support. If this could be you, please contact the school office.

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