

Headteachers Report

Annual Parish Meeting



Spring 2025

Thank you very much, as always, for the opportunity to report to the Parish Council; one of our core values is **Community** and it is something we hold in the highest regard. We are exceptionally fortunate to be part of such a beautiful rural parish.

Aspiration

Dignity

Kindness

Community

West Felton CofE Primary School 2024/25

School Road, West Felton, 01691 610388, head.westfelton@westcliffe.shropshire.sch.uk

Our school day runs from 8:55am – 3:30pm. Since our last report, we have extended our 'wraparound care' and now offer Breakfast and After Club from 7:50am – 6:00pm Monday to Friday for Reception to Y6. We are also able to offer this facility to our Nursery children twice a week. This has been partly funded by a nationwide government initiative.

We employ 31 members of staff, both part and full time, 60% of whom live in the Parish. We currently have 161 children on roll.

Catkins	Acorn	Oak	Beech	Willow	Sycamore
Nursery	Reception	Y1 & Y2	Y2 & Y3	Y4 & Y5	Y5 & Y6
32	16	27	30	29	27

Top 3 wins this year...

1. Educational standards

We continue to provide a high quality, broad and balanced curriculum for all our pupils at West Felton CofE Primary School. Internal data supports this as do our external checks at the end of KS2. 77% of our Y6 pupils left us meeting or exceeding the expected standard in Reading, Writing and Mathematics. All of which are at or above national averages.

2. SIAMS report

As a Church of England primary school, we are inspected every 4 years by the Church of England. This is a rigorous process which looks at every aspect of the school. The inspection results in a simple pass or fail, we passed with flying colours. Feedback included:






- ✓ West Felton's vision shapes school life and is at the heart of this community. Along with underpinning values, it is lived each day and is central to adult and pupil flourishing.
- ✓ Partnerships are important to the school and are valued throughout the community. They are strong, varied, and relevant to its context. They enhance and enrich provision.
- ✓ Collective worship provides opportunities for pupils and staff to reflect on the Christian values, and how they are supported by Scripture. Worship is made relevant to today's world, and this contributes to a school community that can flourish spiritually.
- ✓ The school places a high importance on the wellbeing of pupils and adults. This leads to a supportive and caring environment where people feel safe and valued.
- ✓ The Religious Education (RE) curriculum is carefully and thoughtfully planned. It is passionately led and as a result the subject is valued, challenging and effective.

The full report can be found [here](#):

3. Community Champions

At the start of each academic year, every class votes for their own Community Champions. The Community Champions are tasked with organising our charity events for the coming year. We think about charities: local, national and international and look at the work they do.

We try to organise events which encourage us to actively make a difference and think about each cause carefully.

What date?	Friday 25 th October	Friday 20 th December	Friday 14 th February	Friday 11 th April	Friday 23 rd May
Which Charity?	Just One Tree 	Buddy Bag Foundation 	Severn Hospice 	Cuan Wildlife 	RNLI 
What do they do?	This charity is working hard to ensure that we plant as many trees as possible, all over the planet to ensure that our ecosystem continues to support life on earth.	This charity put together Buddy Bags for children in the UK who have to leave their homes quickly in emergency situations. By providing these children with a few essential items, their mission is to help make the transition into emergency care a little easier.	Severn Hospice is close to a lot of our hearts and many of us have witnessed the amazing work they do. Severn Hospice look after people in their days of need when a cure is no longer possible.	Cuan Wildlife is Shropshire's only 24/7 wildlife rescue centre. They rescue, care for and rehabilitate sick, injured and orphaned wild animals and birds, before releasing them back into the wild.	24 hours a day, 7 days a week, the RNLI is ready to save lives. Volunteer lifeboat crews provide a 24-hour rescue service in the UK and Ireland and RNLI lifeguards patrol busy beaches. RNLI crews and lifeguards have saved over 146,000 lives since 1824.
How are we raising money?	We're all going to dress in Green and donate £1 each	We're all going to bring in a soft toy and donate £1 each	We'll host a Cake and Card sale after school	We can dress as our favourite animal or wear face paints and donate £1 each	A Beach Day at West Felton...dress for the beach (we hope the sun in shing) or as a creature from the sea and donate £1 each, we'll also sell ice pops after school
Our charity challenge	Take a photo of your favourite tree and upload it to Seesaw	Write a card to go in a Buddy Bag to brighten someone's difficult day	Write a heart felt prayer for someone in the hospice and their family & friends	Collect an item e.g. bowls for hedgehog	Create a Water Safety poster for us to send out before we break up for the summer

Challenges this year...

1. Parking around the school

Parking continues to be a contentious issue for some residents, and we regularly receive complaints. West Mercia Police have advised us, and the community, via the village magazine that parents are not in breach of any laws. We take various steps to improve parking by:

- Regularly requesting considerate parking in the weekly school newsletter and app
- Engaging wholeheartedly with West Mercia Police who regularly visit the school and offer advice
- Advertising Sally's very kind offer of parking at The Punch Bowl
- Displaying our mini police officer - which did disappear for a time because it belonged to West Mercia and was needed at another school.
- Car share scheme offered to staff.

In addition, I applied for a travel grant and was successful. This has funded:

- A new mini policeman which belongs to the school
- A travel app which encourages the children to walk/ride/scoot to school either from home or The Punch. They are then rewarded with a series of badges which are proving popular.
- Walking bus equipment which includes a trundle trolley for bags and coats, high vis vests and walking ropes.

We are hoping to launch the Walking Bus as the weather improves but this will be a challenge in terms of staffing. The grant cannot be used for staffing, and we would therefore be reliant on volunteers. We're aiming to start small and offer this once a week and monitor feasibility.

2. Joining a Multi-Academy Trust

The educational landscape around us is changing and Multi-Academy Trusts have been on the horizon for several years. Up until now, West Felton CofE Primary School has operated very successfully under Shropshire County Council, but council structures are changing, and services are diminished.

As a forward-thinking federation, we have spent the last couple of years investigating our options with two things at the forefront of our minds. Firstly, and most importantly, to maintain the standards of care and education that we offer the children of West Felton and surrounding areas and secondly, to maintain autonomy so that we can make the best decisions for our children and families for years to come.

After a process of due diligence, our Governing Body decided that our best route was to join The Marches Academy Trust, along with Kinnerley, Nesscliffe and Weston Lullingfields schools; this decision was accepted by the Department for Education early Spring.

We now move into the 'on-boarding phase' and await an official date to join.

The Marches Academy Trust offer a comprehensive package of support, and we are looking forward to starting our journey with them. West Felton's strong and unique identity will be retained, and we will remain a feeder primary school for The Corbet School, Baschurch.

It continues to be a pleasure and privilege to lead West Felton CofE Primary School and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the community for their ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,



Helen Hughes