Bressingham Primary School

School Road, Bressingham, DISS, Norfolk, IP22 2AR
Tel: 01379 687318
E-Mail: office@bressingham.norfolk.sch.uk
Website: www.bressingham.norfolk.sch.uk

Learning together, growing together
Headteachers: Mrs D Gudde and Mrs J Lewis
Chair of Governors: Mr Timothy Cox

Report to the Annual Parish Meeting on 25.4.23 from Bressingham Primary School

Dear all,

Thank you for your invitation to the Parish Meeting and please accept apologies that we cannot attend in person. We are happy to include a report from the school for presentation at your meeting:

We currently have between 135 and 140 pupils on our roll, and have seven classes, with each year group taught in separate classes. This is something which has to be reviewed annually, as the classes are smaller than usual in primary schools, which means that staffing costs are relatively higher. We still see the benefits of mixed age range teaching, but the arrangement of the national curriculum as it is now is easier with single age ranges. The current arrangement benefits children, but also staff, with smaller classes lessening workload.

The Covid19 period was very difficult for everyone and we were relatively more fortunate than many school communities in the impact on us. It is exciting that we can now return to some of our village links, for example, going to St John's Church in Bressingham to celebrate Christmas and Harvest Festival. One of the traditions that we kept going throughout Covid was visiting the war memorial in the village for a Remembrance Service, initially represented by a group of older children, then with everyone. We are grateful to the Church for supporting us in being able to have these events in the village and to the staff of the Diocese for helping to lead these services. Another village event that is a favourite is when our younger children visit the village Post Office, to post their letters to Father Christmas! An event that we used to have more involvement with was the village Flower Show, and we would be interested to discuss whether there is a possibility of our children entering any competitions for example.

As Covid has caused hardship for many families, we are conscious of not increasing hardship by having too many trips, although these are so valuable; we try to find a balance between these needs. Trips have been enjoyed to Great Yarmouth, to play hockey at Magpies in Harleston, to Redgrave and Lopham Fen, to Hilltop residential centre (Year 5 and Year 6) and to the Steam Museum in Bressingham, amongst others. In March, we even had a big sleepover for Years 5 and 6, which was great fun!

If you would like to find more information about the school, you could visit our website, by searching Bressingham Primary School.

Wishing you all well.

Kind regards,

Dawn Gudde and Joanna Lewis
Headteachers