

Governors' Newsletter Spring 2018



Believe and achieve

Welcome to our spring newsletter where we hope to keep you up to date and informed. As ever, Mrs Ashford and her team continue to seek new and interesting ways to keep our learners engaged and encouraged into developing an interest in life-long learning. You may have heard your children referring to the 8 Cs. Trimley encourages children to challenge themselves, try new things and learn new skills. Our curriculum is underpinned by core learning skills that all children need in order to be effective learners. These skills; Collaboration, Communication, Creativity, Curiosity, Commitment, Critical thinking, Capability and Craftsmanship help children to evaluate themselves as learners. This is explained in further detail, under the title 'curriculum statement, on the school website Trimley.net

The school has also recently adopted an innovative approach to, what can be a very dry topic, grammar, by introducing children to the 'Legends of Literacy'.

We know many of you attended the 'learning together' sessions on this subject and think you will agree it seems to be proving popular. As evidenced in the children's work, it appears to be improving their writing skills.

As Governors, when we come in to visit, we are always impressed to see how the children rise to their challenges with increasing confidence and independence.

March 2018

Special points of interest:-

Equality update
Progress data
Equality aims for 2018



We have been impressed by the quality of the children's ideas and designs to help us update and modernise the school logo; the graphic designer involved, has collated the common themes. This incorporates the four house colours which flow into the 8 'branches', representing the 8c's and the outline of a church window. Also included is our school motto 'Believe and Achieve'.

Children at Trimley St Mary Primary school are benefiting from the generosity of customers at McColl's Store situated along The High Road in the village of Trimley St Martin Felixstowe. Mrs Julie Hutson, Manager of the local store, nominated the school to receive a cheque for the sum of £425.00, donated through the Making a Difference Locally Charity. The School is very grateful to the Community for supporting this collection and will be using it to develop the current Nurture Room; a place where play therapy and pastoral support work takes place. Some of the funding will also be used to provide out-door wildlife charts, to improve the school's outdoor learning environment too.



A cheque for the amount was presented to Head teacher Christina Ashford in assembly alongside children, staff and governors from the school.



The school has also received donation of a defibrillator from the family of a former pupil, Christopher Hickey, a young man who sadly passed away aged only 28, having suffered a sudden cardiac arrhythmia. His family raised the funding which was matched by the local Parish Council. They aim to raise awareness of Sudden Arrhythmic Death Syndrome (SADS), thus hoping to prevent further deaths by presenting this defibrillator to the school. The defibrillator may be accessed by the whole community if needed, when the school is open.



Equality Aims and Update

As part of our Equality Duty as a school we have a requirement to inform you annually on our progress to meet our aims set out in our Single Equality Scheme. We plan to do this by way of this Governors' newsletter and by publishing on the school's website - trimley.net

The Equality Act 2010 places general duties/aims on schools to:-

1. Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation.
2. Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.
3. Foster good relations across all characteristics; between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share.

(Protected characteristic is used as a convenient term to refer to the categories to which the law applies)

There are 9 protected categories, disability, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, gender re-assignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity.

Aims for 2017

1. Improve the outcomes for middle attaining girls in writing and maths at end of Key Stage 2

2. Close the gap between boys' and girls' writing scores by end of Key Stage 2.

% of Children achieving expected standard for writing (teacher assessed)						% children achieving expected standard for Maths		
Year	Gender	Number on Roll	Sch	Local Authority	National Average	Sch	Local Authority	National Average
2016	Male	29	21	63	68	69	65	70
	Female	18	39	79	81	44	64	70
	Gap		18	16	13	25	1	0
2017	Male	36	56	67	71	67	69	75
	Female	22	73	82	83	64	72	76
	Gap		17	15	12	3	3	1

The results from the end of Key Stage 2, 2017 demonstrate that all children are making good progress; girls in particular are closing the gap in maths.

Although the standard in boy's writing has increased so too did the girls; meaning the gap still exists.

The aim to close the gap between boys' and girls' writing scores continues to be one of our equality aims for 2018.

3. To increase the number of children working 'at the expected standard' in maths by the end of Key Stage 1, and close the gap between disadvantaged and non disadvantaged children.

All children demonstrated good progress, as can be seen from these results, children achieved above the national average in their maths for 2017.

However there is still a gap between the outcomes of non disadvantaged pupils against those classed as disadvantaged.

This will remain an equality focus for 2018.

Percentage of children achieving expected standard or above in Maths

Year	Number of children	Sch	Local Authority	National Average	
2016		54	50	71	73
	Non Disadvantaged 41		54	75	77
	Disadvantaged 13		39	57	60
Gap			15	18	17
2017		59	76	74	75
	Non Disadvantaged 50		82	77	78
	Disadvantaged 9		44	61	62
Gap			38	16	16

4. To promote spiritual, moral, social and cultural opportunities through all appropriate curricular opportunities with particular references to issues of equality and diversity.

Through our themed assemblies and cross-curricular topics, children have the opportunity to hear about other global cultures and religions. Learning about festivals that are important to different faiths.

Through the Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE) programme children are taught the importance of respect and kindness to others and what it is to be a responsible citizen. As well as topics such as:- friendship, anti-bullying, the importance of looking after their own well-being and helping each other, ensuring our school community is safe and happy.

Global links with our school friends in Gambia and links with the local community, with both visitors into school and class trips out, all help towards extending knowledge of living in the wider world.

January 2018 school census shows:-

Total Number of children on school roll	Number that are girls	Children that qualify for Free School Meals	Children on Special Educational Needs register	Children with an Individual Health Care Plan not on Special Educational Needs register	Pupils on roll by ethnic group	Children with English as an additional language
385	196 (51%)	29 (7%)	36 (9%)	32 (8%)	Mix of 4 codes	8 (2%)

Our Equality Aims for 2018 -19

1. Improve the outcomes for middle attaining girls in writing and maths at end of Key Stage 2.
2. Close the gap between boys' and girls' writing scores by end of Key Stage 2.
3. To increase the number of children working 'at the expected standard' in maths by the end of Key Stage 1, and close the gap between disadvantaged and non disadvantaged children.
4. To promote spiritual, moral, social and cultural opportunities through all appropriate curricular opportunities with particular references to issues of equality and diversity.

Equality permeates all school activities and this equality update should be read in conjunction with the Single Equality Scheme, Accessibility Plan, Special Educational Needs (SENs) Policy, School Curriculum, Entitlement policy and Behaviour Policy.

These policies ensure all those in our school community are able to access all that school has to offer. They are available to view on the school website trimley.net

We would like to take this opportunity to thank parent/carers and the surrounding community for their continued support of the school. Working together as a team: pupils, teachers, parent/carers, volunteers, governors - in fact as a whole school community, we can help all children achieve their true potential.

Together we can believe and achieve.

**Yours sincerely,
Your School Governors**

(A full list of your Governors is available in the school office or school website [-trimley.net](http://trimley.net))

(If you require any school policies or newsletters in a different format please contact the school office)