

# St Margaret's C.E.P. School

## Newsletter

*Inspire, Nurture, Discover*

Learning as we grow, Growing as we learn, Rooted in Jesus

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**Wednesday 16th Dec**

**Issue No: 7**

### Hunton Primary School

Since April, I have been leading Hunton Primary as well as here. The new substantive Head takes over full responsibility for Hunton school in the new year. It is hard to believe the situations we have all faced since March but taking over an unfamiliar school as a pandemic started was certainly not a situation I thought I would ever face!

Unsurprisingly, it has been challenging but also most rewarding. It is quite incredible how our 4 church schools operating under the same Local Authority and Diocese are so distinctive in their offer to their pupils. This is something to be cherished.

My task has been made much easier by every section of St. Margaret's Collier Street school community. As parents, your supportive comments have been really appreciated. The staff have been terrific. I would especially like to thank Mrs Bannon for originally agreeing to undertake her role on a Thursday and Friday just until July and then with schools thrown into turmoil and no Headteacher appointments being able to be made, extending this arrangement until December.

Going forward, a new Headteacher needs support and mentoring and having undertaken this previously, I have agreed to do this at Hunton for 1 day per week for terms 3 and 4. However, as you can imagine, this is a very different role to actually being responsible for every aspect of the school 7 days a week!

Once again, thank you to everyone

for supporting me through the last 9 exciting months.

### Term Dates etc

**Thurs 17th** Dec End of term

*Christmas Holiday*

Mon 4th Jan—Children return

Monday 11th World Week starts. This was postponed from March. I'm sure it will be worth the wait!

Tues 9th and Thurs 11th Feb—Parent/Teacher consultations

Fri 12th End of term 3

*Mon 15th—Fri 19th Feb Holiday*

Mon 22nd—Children return

Wed 31st March End of term 4

Thurs 1st April—Staff Development Day

*Fri 2nd April—Fri 16th Easter Holidays*

Mon 19th April—Children return to school for term 5

### Christmas

Clearly we have had to adapt the way in which we have celebrated Christmas. I think the way on which we have missed 4 church services now starting with Easter is such a shame; there is something rather special about welcoming families to both the nativity and the Christmas service. But we haven't been beaten! I would like to thank the staff especially Mrs Bannon and Mrs Tyler, as well as the volunteers who have enabled the nativity to be portrayed through dance; no small feat with such young children. A huge thank you to Nick Arthur for filming and editing the performances. Christmas Jumper Day brought colour to the school and raised £195.80 for Save

the Children. The Santa Dash yesterday also proved to be a resounding success. We raised £209.56 for the Yalding Food Bank. Finally, a thank you to Yalding Education Foundation. They kindly donated money so that the staff could 'make Christmas a little special' for their class and later this week, there could be evidence of a rather special visitor to school this Christmas time.....

As Headteacher I am very proud of the way in which both staff and pupils have made these last 2 terms so productive, plugging the gaps left from the first lockdown. It has been a delight to see the children get back into learning, enjoying the broad curriculum we have strived to offer. During the first week back after the holiday, we will be holding another round of Progress Review Meetings where we will take stock of progress of each child and plan the next steps. Your support continues to be invaluable.



On behalf of the staff and governors, may I wish you a happy and peaceful Christmas.

We look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 4th Jan 2021.