

Christleton Primary School Report for Christleton Parish Council Annual Meeting May 2021

The school year has been completely dominated by Covid 19 with various numbers of children being in school depending on the Lockdown status. There are currently 210 children at the school.

The staff, children and parent community have worked tirelessly throughout the pandemic. It has been very challenging for all concerned and required the school to adapt and develop rapidly. There has been a significant cost for the school to increase cleaning materials / processes, cover staff, organise the site etc. The school has not been able to recover any of these costs from the central government.

During the lockdowns the school provided emergency provision for around 35% of the children including the vast majority of vulnerable children who attend the school. The school invested time and resources in its remote learning provision so all children not attending were able to access live teaching each day from home, where children/families did not have access to a device the school provided one.

The school provided vouchers to parents of children on 'free school meals' to support during each lockdown and during the holidays.

The children returned fully to school in March which was fantastic. All children have returned positively and are happy and settled in school. The school took the view that ensuring happy, settled children was the priority. Well-being activities were planned in addition to use of the outside environment which we have continued to develop for learning.

Parents and visitors have not been allowed into the school building and there is a one way system in place for parents to drop off and collect their children.

The head expressed his thanks to the wider school community (parents) who have been fantastic throughout. They have been hugely supportive with remote learning and on return to school have adhered to the COVID systems we have in place.

Governors meetings have been held on line with varying degrees of success with the technology.

Unfortunately, last Autumn there were several occasions when people used and vandalised the Forest School area. Large fires were lit, canisters exploded and several items (including safety equipment) were burnt or destroyed. This meant additional time being spent before sessions on checking the area and some items could no longer be used. The continued trespassing was disruptive to the children's education and cost time and money to repair.

News of this event reached the parental and wider community and the school has been overwhelmed by the response. The school received donations, wishes and pledges from many different sources. The school is incredibly grateful to all of these individuals and groups for their support.

There have been a few instances of positive Covid tests with staff and pupils having to isolate but thankfully no serious illness reported.

There have been no extracurricular activities such as sports matches with other schools, no themed weeks with visitors leading them and no outings and residential visits.

We look forward to the return of some form of normality in the not too distant future.

Elizabeth Inall