

St John the Baptist (CE) Primary School and Nursery

School Report

For

Annual Parish Meeting 1/5/2018

During the year there has been some changes to the Governing Body – in particular you will be aware that we sadly lost Mick Berry and of course Ros Slowley has retired after years of representing the Parish Council on the Governing Body. These, and others, have been replaced with “newcomers” paying particular attention to the skills that they bring to the table.

Our Chair is now Helen Antelo, following the resignation of Sarah Bayliss, and Mrs Ball remains as Executive Head of the Federation that includes Bomere Heath.

We are now seeing the real benefits of Federating. Not just financial benefits (although they were essential) but also the sharing of good practice between the two schools, to the benefit of children at both.

Finances remain exceptionally tight. The “fairer funding formula” did very little for us. A rural school like ours attracts less than half the funding per pupil that is awarded to inner city schools.

The charity-owned Pre-school has now been integrated into our school, and has become a Nursery by extending the age range that we cater for. This has improved intake at the Nursery – a welcome improvement.

In the Primary School the numbers are lower than they have been in the recent past although we are expecting a larger reception intake this year.

We continue to be a “good” school, and achieve good results from SIAMS inspections.

We excel in music and sports. Many villagers attended a recent concert by our pupils at Packwood – it was magnificent and demonstrated some real talent in our youngsters. Our boys football team have reached the Final of The U11 Shropshire Small Schools Competition that takes place on Bank Holiday Monday (7th May). The girls football team are doing very well and many children excel at local cross-country events.

But perhaps most importantly our pupils find school a happy place to be – well-being and resilience are very important to us.

Colin Case

Governor and Chair of Finance Committee

Bomere and the XI Towns Federation