

## **Little Milton School Report to Annual Parish Meeting 2016**

2015-16 has been an eventful year at Little Milton School. We now have 72 children in four classes, with an intake of 12 children per year. Most year groups are full with all classes taught in mixed age groups with the exception of Reception.

There have been a number of staffing changes, with Eve Hunter leaving the school, after 14 years, at Christmas, and Beth McLaren taking over as a former teacher at the school. Eve has started a new business focused on teaching children with special needs and continues to work locally. New teachers also started in September and January as well as some classroom changes for existing teachers, so a time of transition for all. We have also, of course, welcomed Rev Simon Cronk as our new vicar: Simon comes to school once a week to take assemblies. Teresa Quested became a new governor and we thanked Caroline Day who stepped down due to a twin pregnancy!

During the Spring term, SIAMS visited and awarded the school a “good” grading – this is the statutory inspection by Anglican and Methodists Schools body. The school was commended for its family, nurturing feel and for the projects which have ensured children have learned about other cultures and religions – including Comenius project (European connections with other schools) and British Council project with South Africa.

Ofsted visited the school during March for a one day inspection: again the outcome was that the school continues to be good, although the framework for inspection changed in 2015 and each grading became more challenging to reach, reflecting progress in a number of areas for Little Milton. The school was felt to have achieved previous targets including looking more widely at the global community and for challenging more able children.

Year six SATs take place this week – the new revised curriculum has been in place for these children for only 18 months and the challenges faced are greater than ever for 11 year olds. 7 year old testing will take place next week and we will then await the score of 100 + or – for each child to move forward. Schools are now able to set their own way of assessing progress for all other year groups and this national testing is the first of its type since the government made changes.

We continue in our quest for new buildings, and have recently had confirmation of a successful bid from the diocese. We are in the early stages of planning this with architect visits planned. The previous project has had to be completely revised due to funding levels being substantially reduced. We are positive, however, that we will be able to improve the learning environment during the next few years with the help of this funding.

The Friends of the school have continued in their fundraising efforts and this has enabled us to purchase much needed resources for the school, including a new set of playground equipment installed just after Easter.

Many thanks to those who have supported us during the past year and continue to do so.

**Beth McLaren**  
**May 2016**