

St Stephens C of E Junior School, Kingswood, Bristol

We have had a busy year since the last report in all areas of school life.

Miss Wilson continues to make her mark within the school. This has resulted in some fantastic changes in school life for both pupils and teaching staff.

The end of last year saw our previous year 6 produce the best results in their Sats that we have seen. All areas were above what is expected nationally especially in Maths where we saw our first Level 6 results, this meant the children working at the equivalent of year 8 in secondary school.

We look forward to this year's results although as a cohort we will be looking more at progress. Progress, academically, across the school has been good to outstanding.

The new curriculum has been welcomed in with some changes to how teachers are delivering it. Two approaches are being used to make it both lead by the pupils and to help them master their understanding of the subjects. It is still early days but data we have seen is positive and we are excited to see what happens in the future.

Lot's has taken place so far within school with the new school year kicking off with a Science week where the children took part in experiments and had hands on experiences. With the 100 year anniversary of WW1 the pupils across all years had the chance to dig a trench, which was harder than they thought! All years have taken part in trips from Fossil hunting by the Severn, visiting Arnos Vale to watching Wolves at the new Bristol Zoo site at Cribbs Causeway. With more to come including the annual camp to Heatree House in Devon for year 6 the pupils continue to be kept busy.

Our sports team's success is shown with the number of cups that are exhibited in the main entrance to the school and a recent 2nd place for our Athletes in a cross counties competition has cemented our children as a force to be contended with.

Collective worship has been a focus too. The school has recently reviewed its value's with help from pupils, parents, teachers and the governors. Each term looks at one of the values and how the pupils can work to fit it into their daily lives. Nigel joins the school every Wednesday to share his song with the pupils and this has become a highlight of the week.

Our school website and Facebook page are a wealth of information on what is and has happened at school and is updated weekly. For a great chance to see and join in please visit the site at ststephensjun.org.uk .

The next year will see more inspections. Ofsted are due within the next 6 months. With support from the Local Authority we are not expecting to stay at our current rating but look forward to improving it to 'Good'. The Church inspection is also due next month and with help from Katy Staples from the education department of the church we hope to impress with the changes we have made. However I would like to remind you that we are 1 Foundation Governor short and with Rev Ian Wills retiring at the end of the school year we will need another. This role is vital to the school as we develop in our role both as a church school and within the community, so I would like to invite anyone who wishes to get involved to come and say hello and see what we do.

Becky Drake -Chair of Governors

