

Great Wilbraham Church of England Primary School

Acting Headteacher: Mrs Helen Darrell

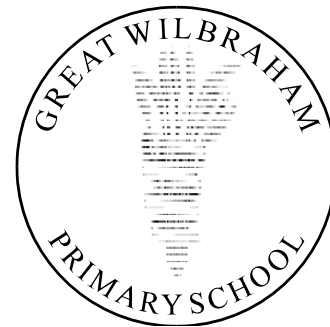
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'Learning Together'

GREAT WILBRAHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

REVIEW OF 2010/11

Letter from Chair of Governors

The 2010-11 academic year has been incredibly busy and governors and staff have worked hard to ensure that the school has continued to improve and grow, both in a physical sense and more importantly, to be a solid and vibrant environment for all. Although Naomi Chapman formally left the school at the end of the winter term, the governors decided that there should be a period of stability and that we should continue to employ Helen Darrell as Acting Head Teacher as she had been so successful in this role during Miss Chapman's long term sick leave. Although the terminology is 'Acting' she is to all intents and purposes the leader of our school. We are delighted by how well Helen has risen to the challenge, and she has continued to undertake professional Head Teacher training to enable her to carry out the role with utmost professionalism. Thank you Helen, you have enabled the school to maintain a high standard with your calm and reassuring manner and expertise. Laura Latham and Kim Crisp in particular, along with the rest of the staff have supported Helen to ensure that the school has continued to run smoothly and effectively. We will be looking to formally appoint a permanent Head Teacher within the next 12 months.

You will see from the information below that there has been an awful lot going on and the children have achieved some wonderful things. This is all thanks to the enthusiastic and dedicated staff members, who are to be congratulated along with children. We are very lucky to have such a high calibre staff team.

We are continuing to formulate plans for future development which are listed at the end of the report, but are always open to your input and comments, and value and welcome feedback from parents at any time. Do please get in touch with myself or any of the governors personally or through the publicised email address or school.

Finally, I would like to thank all of our governors who offer their time freely and whole-heartedly, and also our hard working clerk Jo Gardner.

We look forward to the next school year with baited breath!

Sally Ramus
July 2011

Letter from the Headteacher

The attached report is a review of the 2010/11 academic year, which looks back on the events of the year. It is only by looking back that we can really see how much we have achieved in a relatively short time. More details are given in the report, but I would like to pick out a few areas to highlight in particular.

- The Year 6 academic results (SATs results) this year have been excellent with 91% Level 4 and above in all areas. The Level 5 results were also very good with 50% achieving Level 5 in reading and maths, and 41% in English overall. A new measure of achievement, 2+ Levels progress, shows that 100% of children made two or more levels progress in reading and English overall, and 91% in writing and maths. We are very pleased with the results and are very proud of the children for their achievements.
- We have had considerable sporting success this year with children from our school coming in the top 3 in different competitions against schools from all over the county. We have also had teams in the county finals of Tag Rugby, Basketball and Hi Fives Netball. All children have had very good quality sports provision over the year.
- Despite the closure of our existing provider of music lessons, we have worked hard to find replacements and children at our school now have the opportunity to learn violin, flute, saxophone, clarinet and piano. This is the widest selection of instrumental lessons we have provided for a number of years and we hope to expand this further.
- As an Eco School, we have to renew our Green Flag every 3 years. This year the standards have been more rigorous than ever, nevertheless, due to our good practice we have been awarded our 4th Green Flag and are now one of the only schools in the country to have achieved this.

I would also like to acknowledge the hard work of current and past members of the PTFA over the year. They have undertaken the difficult role of providing entertaining activities whilst at the same time raising funds for school! I would like to encourage anyone who would like to get involved in the PTFA to come forward (and bring a friend!), we would love to have more members.

Unfortunately this year, Woosh has had to close due to lack of numbers. Although the school was not in a position to take over the provision of out of school care immediately, we recognise that this is a very important facility for working parents. We will be addressing this issue as a matter of urgency in the new school year with the aim of having provision available from January 2012.

The end of the school year brings staffing changes. Cecile Bye is leaving teaching to spend more time with her young family and we wish her lots of fun and happiness with her girls. We have appointed Jackie Crisp, a fantastic teacher to work in year 3&4 next year and we look forward to getting to know her better. Diana Beavis is leaving after working at our school for 40 years! Her tea party last week was a testament to her popularity and the way in which she has touched the lives of generations of children – some of whom now have children at the school themselves! We will miss her – but she loves the school so much she says she won't be able to keep away and will come in as a volunteer!

I would like to thank all the parents for their ongoing support and understanding this year because with supportive parents we can all achieve so much more. Not every parent can come in to school to help, but we appreciate all the other ways in which you support us too.

Finally I would like to thank the staff. I know that every member of staff works their hardest to make this school the best it can be for the children who are with us every day. We might not get it right every time, but we constantly strive to provide the best environment and education to enable every child to achieve their potential. Certainly looking at the year 6s who are about to leave for secondary school I feel that we all – staff and parents together - have done an excellent job!

Best wishes for a very happy and relaxing summer,

Helen Darrell

GREAT WILBRAHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

REVIEW OF 2010/11

New Year - New Building

The alterations to school were finished just in time for the new school year. Pluto class now has a much larger classroom with doors that open straight onto a dedicated outdoor play area. Saturn class moved into a new larger classroom created from the old computer room and group room. We also now have a new group room which is very well used for small group work, individual tuition, music lessons as well as meetings. The final piece of the jigsaw was to create an integrated Research Room which contains the library and a number of computers. This room is also used for hearing children read and for individual tuition. We now have a school where every room is used to the full.

Staffing

At the start of this year we welcomed Lydia Newington to the teaching staff. She has made a very positive contribution to the Foundation Stage as well as the school as a whole. Janet Williams left to take up a post at a Nursery near her home. At the end of this year we will be very sad to say farewell to Cecile Bye who will be leaving to spend more time with her family. After 40 years at Great Wilbraham School, Diana Beavis will be leaving. She has made an immense contribution to the school and all those who have worked here as well as those who came here as children – some of whom are now parents themselves! We had a lovely tea party for her which was attended by many, many old friends and colleagues. Diana does plan to come back into school when she can so we hope it is more *au revoir* than goodbye!

Foundation Stage

Lydia Newington has continued to develop excellent links with the Little Warblers Pre-school, who are regular visitors to the school, joining Pluto class for lessons as well as 'Wake Up Shake Up' several mornings each week. Lydia has run workshops for parents on Learning Journeys and Reading. Lydia has also transformed the area outside Pluto classroom from an empty space to an exciting and vibrant place for children to learn and play.

Academic Progress and Achievement

All classes make learning exciting and relevant to the children by teaching through topics. This enables the children to make links between, for instance; literacy, history and geography; or science, art and maths. The topics for Jupiter class have included: Water, Victorians, Looking at Things Differently, Plants and Animals, Food and Shakespeare. Mars Class have covered: All Around the World, Surprise, Vikings and Villages, The Iron Man and Tasty Bites. Saturn Class have learned about: The Underground, Superheroes, Dinosaurs, Italy and the Romans, Transport and The Sea. Pluto Class topics have been: Seasides, Dinosaurs, Space, Ourselves, Festivals and Celebrations and Growing.

The childrens' educational and personal targets for the year are agreed with parents early on in the Autumn term. For key stage 2, the children are also involved in setting their own targets. This has been a very useful way of working in partnership with parents to help develop a shared understanding of what their children can already do and what their next steps should be. Copies of the targets agreed are sent home. Our main annual report is sent home mid year. We do not use report writing programmes and every comment is personal and individual to the child. Progress towards targets is updated and new ones set as necessary. The second parents' evening is held after the reports go home. A final report is written at the end of the year, giving curriculum levels.

Teachers continually assess the progress that children have made in a variety of different ways. Targeted support is given to those who need it. This might be through different work in class, working individually or in a small group with a teaching assistant or, in the case of older children via the One to One Tuition Scheme, funded by the Department for Education.

National Curriculum Tests 2011 (SATs)

Every year, children in year 6 are required to sit National Curriculum Tests, known as SATs. This year's results show further improvements. A new measure introduced by the Department for Education is that of 2 Levels progress. This shows what percentage of children have made expected progress from Level 2 in Key Stage 1 to Level 4 in Key Stage 2. (However if a child started at Level 1 they would be expected to be at Level 3 in Key Stage 2; and if they were at Level 3 they would be expected to get to Level 5 at Key Stage 2).

This year, many children have made 3 levels progress over the key stage, with 50% making 3 Levels progress in reading, 33% making 3 levels progress in writing and 33% making 3 levels progress in maths. These are excellent results and reflect the hard work of the children, all staff throughout the school and the support and help of parents.

National Curriculum Test Results 2011

	N	Level 3	Level 4+	Level 5	2+ levels progress
Reading	-	8.3%	91.3%	50%	100%
Writing	-	8.3%	91.3%	33.2%	91.3%
English	-	8.3%	91.3%	41.5%	100%
Maths	8.3%	-	91.3%	50%	91.3%

Notes:

- There are 12 children in the cohort. Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding. Each child is 8.3%. N is used when no level is awarded.
- Level 3 = achievement below the nationally expected standard for most 11 year olds.
- Level 4 = achievement at the nationally expected standard for most 11 year olds.
- Level 5 = achievement above the nationally expected standard for most 11 year olds.
- 2 Levels progress is a measure to show whether children have made expected progress from Key Stage 1 to Key Stage 2. Some children make more than 2 levels progress.

Inter School Competition

There are a number of opportunities for the older children to take part in different academic competitions with other schools. This year, a team of four children from year 5 entered the countywide Year 5 Maths Challenge against 120 other schools. The heats were held at Burwell Village College and our team did so well they qualified for the Finals which were held at Duxford Air Museum. Although they did not win, we were very proud of them for reaching the final – the first time for many years.

Two teams from Year 6 were entered into a Year 6 Maths Competition held at St Faith's School in Cambridge and both teams did well. We also entered a Year 6 Geography Quiz held at Burwell Village College.

Educational Visits and Visitors

As part of our teaching we regularly invite visitors in to give talks, or to provide workshops. This year Pluto and Saturn classes had a visit from the RNLi so that the children could learn about people who help us. The highlight for many children in Mars this year was the Viking Topic, when we invited in the Vikings of Middle England. Hrothgar and Raven (dressed in authentic Viking clothing) spent the day with us, telling stories, showing artefacts and re-enacting vicious sword fights! Mars class have also visited the Great Fen at Ramsey to be Fen Time Travellers.

Pluto and Saturn classes visited the Dinosaur Park in Norfolk to complement their learning about dinosaurs. They were able to see life size models to help them imagine what dinosaurs really looked like. In December, all of Pluto and Saturn Class took part in an outdoor adventure visit to Thetford Forest where they explored the forest, climbed

trees and made snowmen. Key Stage 1 have just visited Hunstanton as part of their learning about the Seaside. They were able to spend time playing on the beach as well as visiting the Sea Life Centre to learn about life in the sea. A great way to end the year!

Jupiter class started this year with the residential trip to Aylmerton Field Studies Centre in Norfolk. This was part of their topic on water and they were able to learn first-hand the effects of coastal erosion. There were also adventurous activities such as wading through the mud flats as well as finding fossils and semi precious stones on the beach at West Runton. Jupiter class also visited Dalham Hall Stud in Newmarket where they saw some of the most expensive racehorses in the world. This was a great opportunity to link maths with the wider world, not in relation to betting, but in terms of percentages, fractions, costs and probability.

The whole of key stage 2 visited the Hindu temple in Watford to help bring alive their RE learning of Buddhism. This was a fantastic visit which really opened our eyes to a different way of life and different religion.

As part of our Personal, Social and Health Education curriculum, we invite the Cambridgeshire Life Education Centre to spend two days at school. Children learn all about how to look after their bodies as well as the effect of drugs (which include medicines). This is all delivered by expert tutors who ensure that the content of each session is appropriate and tailored to each class/age group. The local Police Community Support Officer also visited key stage 2.

Sports

Lucy Walker has taken over as school PE subject leader and has enabled us to develop our sporting provision and success. This year, we have taken part in all the sporting opportunities offered through the Sports Partnership. These have included Year 1 tennis, Year 2 Multisports, Year 3 mini Olympics, Year 4 athletics festival. The Year 5/6 Pentathlon was held at Bottisham Village College. Children from our school were very successful; Evie Nichols came 1st in Year 6 girls 800metres, Francesca Grubb came 2nd in year 5 girls 800metres and Ben Smith was 3rd in year 5 boys 800metres. Children also represented the school at the Hi 5 netball county finals at Netherhall School and the Tag Rugby county finals at Shelford Rugby Club. We have also taken part in the schools cross country competition where Evie Nichols came 3rd out of a field of about 100 children. A team of children also reached the county finals in Basketball and came second. This has been a record breaking year for our sports teams and is a tribute to the children's hard work and team spirit as well as the coaching from Lucy Walker and Laura Latham.

As well as competitions, we have continued to have expert sports tuition from Premier Sport both on Wednesday afternoon as part of the creative curriculum, and also for lessons on a Thursday afternoon for years 1-6. Year 1&2 have also had additional tag rugby tuition. Lucy Walker and Laura Latham ran a very popular Netball Club after school on Thursdays, and there have also been Monday lunchtime football clubs and an after school multi sports club on Wednesday run by Premier Sport.

The year has culminated in our competitive Sports Day in which the children took part with such enthusiasm – including long distance running races for every year group.

Music

Music provision has developed and changed over the year. Rachel Good has continued to provide violin tuition to individual pupils. Unfortunately, Fenland Music stopped operating in the Autumn term and we were left with no other music provision. We were keen to ensure that children continued to have access to a range of instrumental lessons, so we have now arranged for Cambridgeshire Music to provide tuition and we can now offer a wider range of music tuition than previously. Children now have the option of individual flute, piano, saxophone and clarinet lessons. Jupiter class have also benefitted from the Wider Opportunities programme of music and have had lessons in keyboards over the year culminating in a concert to the school and their parents at the end of term.

Cecile Bye has run the choir this year who have really developed under her leadership. They took part in the Circle Schools' Choir Festival at Burwell Village College with 12 other choirs. These choirs then joined together to sing in a concert at West Road Music Hall in Cambridge in collaboration with Bottisham Village College. They were highly praised for their performances.

Eco School

The School's Eco Council continues to work on environmental issues. The council is made up of members of staff, governors and pupils and is led by Diana Beavis. Their responsibilities include recycling fruit waste and paper, reading electricity and water meters, feeding the birds and encouraging everyone to turn off the lights and taps.

This year we were also required to renew the school's Green Flag. Under tough new standards, Diana Beavis led us through to being re-accredited once more – for the fourth time! We are now one of only a few schools in the country to have 4 flags. Diana has also led the school's annual birdwatch in conjunction with Sue Tait from the RSPB.

Over the summer holidays a band of keen parents and staff worked very hard on transforming an underused piece of land by the front gate into a Spiritual Garden. Amanda Turner, one of our teaching Assistants and a very talented garden designer came up with the ideas and plans. Elements in the garden represent fire, water, air and earth and the garden is now a place for children to spend time quietly at play and lunch times. The wooden toadstools were a gift from the Year 6 children who left last year. Our dragon sculpture, designed last year by Tony Hillier now takes its place in the garden. We were very lucky to have had the Spiritual Garden officially opened by Rev Rhiannon Jones and Rev Tim Alban Jones, the Rural Dean. Later in the year we had a visit from Bishop David and he planted a new clematis, 'Diana's Delight', which we thought was a fitting tribute to Mrs Beavis!

Church Links

We continue to have strong links with the church. We were saddened to learn that our vicar, Rhiannon Jones was moving on to a new job but the other members of the church team have been very active. Caroline Simmonds, the Parish Assistant has run Happy Sad Club with Laura Latham. This is a small group of children who come along to fortnightly meetings when they need to talk about happy or sad things in their lives. Sue Potts and Liz Seetharaman come into school regularly to take collective worship and we continue to have collective worship in church once every half term. Special services have been held for Harvest, Christmas, Christingle, Easter and Year 6 Leavers. We have regular visits from the ever popular GenR8. Cecily Murfitt, the Bishop's visitor spends time with each class every term. She regularly comments on how much she enjoys visiting our school, always noting the friendly family atmosphere. We were also honoured to have a visit from Bishop David, the Bishop of Huntingdon. We celebrated the 200th anniversary of Church Schools this year and also the 400th anniversary of the King James Bible. We were asked to contribute a large square to a church schools patchwork quilt celebrating this to be displayed at Ely Cathedral. Our square showed the school badge, sewn by groups of children under the expert supervision of Ann Neale. Mars class visited Ely Cathedral as part of the Church Schools Day.

Charity Links

This year we have reviewed which charities we support to give a balance of local, national and international causes. In the Autumn term, our harvest produce collection was donated to Jimmy's Night Shelter in Cambridge. We also raised money for Red Nose Day by having a 'Back to Front Day' which saw children (and teachers) dressed in pyjamas or wearing their clothes back to front! At Christmas, many children and families donated shoeboxes full of toys for Operation Christmas Child. In January we held our 'Kenya Day' to raise money for two different charities in Kenya, "Feeding the Children" and "The Good Life Orphanage". Ella, whose grandparents live in Kenya and help run the charities, went to help out and also to hand over the money raised, which was used to buy two computers. We have now decided to continue fundraising for these small charities every year. In the summer term we supported a local charity, East Anglia Childrens' Hospice by holding a Butterfly Tea Party after school. We have also continued to

support the SOS Childrens' Village in Malawi. Many of these events were organised by children and parents as well as staff.

Book Week and Open Morning

Book Week, co-ordinated by Cecile Bye, was full of fun events designed to celebrate books, stories and reading. The Book Fair visited for the week and all children had the opportunity to look through the books on offer. Jon Bridgeman, a children's author visited the school and talked to the children about writing stories and becoming a published author. The week ended with 'Dress Up as a Book Character Day', where the school was full of amazing characters from Willy Wonka to Floppy from the Magic Key. As usual, all the staff join in with dressing up and the children were taught for the day by Tigger, The Smartest Giant in Town, Wally, Meg & Mog and many other characters!

This year we linked Open Morning with the Book Week theme. As part of the assembly at the start of the day each class prepared a short performance based on a story, poem or something they had written. This was followed by the traditional Maypole dancing, which this year was probably the best performance ever! The children then took part in a Story Trail – in mixed age teams, they had to find lots of items from different stories which were hidden in the school grounds. This was followed by an open lesson, where parents were welcomed into the classroom to see (and take part) in what their children were learning. The morning culminated in a whole school picnic on the field with children, staff and parents and families.

Drama

Every year, each class puts on a class assembly for parents and the rest of the school. These are always very popular and well attended. The assemblies link into subjects that the children have learnt about that half term. The Christmas play this year was Babouska with Mars Class performing the leading roles and children from Pluto and Saturn Classes supporting them. Jupiter performed Shakespeare's Hamlet as their end of year production. This year it was performed in the school hall, with scenery changes, atmospheric lighting and a fog machine to add drama! All reviews of the performance were very positive.

The Creative Curriculum – 'Wednesday Activities'

The school continues to lead the way in terms of providing access to a wide range of extra curricular activities. It is a government requirement that all teachers have one session a week out of the classroom, known as Planning, Preparation and Assessment (PPA) time. We arrange our teaching so that all curriculum teaching is done over four and a half days, leaving Wednesday afternoon free for creative activities. This enables all children to have the option to try things they might not otherwise have done. Each child chooses two activities each term and they are encouraged to choose at least one active option.

Activities on offer this year have included: musical theatre, drama and storytelling, film club, ICT, art, fitness, cricket, athletics, football, pick and mix play, board games, card games, construction, karate, dance, cake decorating, sewing, wildlife explorers, outdoor play, gardening, design and Christmas crafts. This extremely wide range of extra curricular activities are, and will continue to be, provided to every child at no additional cost to parents.

We are very grateful to all those people – including parents, governors, teaching assistants who have helped to make Wednesday afternoons so successful. They continue to be very popular with children who really make the most of the opportunities they are given and relish trying new things.

School Council

The School Council continued to run effectively under the Chairmanship of Katie Cory with Lauren Bisiker as Secretary. They have discussed a number of issues and have worked on a child's version of what makes a good lesson!

Links with Parents and Families

Parents have been very important partners in the school this year, as always. There are many parents who give their time on a regular basis to help in classrooms or to hear children read and both the parents and children enjoy this time. Parents have also helped to provide transport to various different events, provided costumes for class assemblies, plays and dressing up days.

A number of different parent information sessions have been held, from a Maths Information evening to workshops for The Learning Journey in Foundation stage.

The governors have introduced a Coffee and Chat morning every half term. Parents are welcome to come in to the Rocket Room and have a chat to each other and governors in an informal setting over a drink and biscuit.

Staff Training

It is important that staff are kept up to date with new developments and requirements and well as undertaking their own continuous professional development. Training attended by staff this year has included: child protection, positive handling, statutory assessment (Special Educational Needs), child mental health, understanding Autism, phonics, maths subject leadership, literacy subject leadership, teaching spelling, first aid, safer recruiting, finance, updates on ICT systems and requirements, teaching hockey, teaching tennis, science, Early Years Foundation Stage Profile moderation, sound judgements in Foundation stage, planning for outside learning, developing boys writing, motivating young learners, behaviour emotional and social difficulties inclusion, developing Lego therapy, messy play in Foundation stage.

Governor Training

All governors continue to undertake lots of relevant training courses to ensure good practice is current.

Website

Over the year, the school's website has been redeveloped and is now a vibrant and exciting window into the life of the school. It is regularly updated with school news, reports from the children as well as containing all the important information parents need. This has been possible only with the input of Dave Humphrey, a parent and governor who has put in a lot of hard work. The website address is www.greatwilbraham.cambs.sch.uk.

Areas for development:

Following in from all the many positive things that we have achieved this year (2010-11) we always look for ways in which we can improve our practice. For the year 2011-12 we have highlighted the following areas for development.

- To improve calculation and mental maths skills
- To develop a proactive, whole school approach to improving and maintaining the positive behaviour of the children
- To promote the wide range of extra-curricular activities provided by the school on a Wednesday afternoon
- To develop different, more effective, ways of gaining the views of parents regarding different aspects of school life
- To explore options for providing before and after school care as a matter of urgency

Please do come along to our Governors' Annual Meeting to Parents on **Thursday 20th October 7.30pm**, to hear more about the actions we plan to implement in order to develop these areas.

Governor / Category	Date Term of Office Ends
Mrs Sally Ramus Chair of Governors LEA Appointed	1 st September 2011. LEA have re-appointed to 1 st September 2015. 01223 881050 chair@greatwilbraham.cambs.sch.uk
Mrs Helen Darrell Acting Head Teacher	N/A
Mr John Bramwell Community Governor	24 th March 2014
Mrs Gill Gienke Community Governor	27 th January 2015
Vicar Foundation Governor	To be appointed
Mrs Ann Neale Foundation Governor	31 st August 2011
Vacant Foundation Governor	To be appointed
Mrs Kim Quiggin Parent Governor	7 th October 2012
Mr Simon Gibson Parent Governor	7 th October 2012
Mr Andrew Goryn Parent Governor	22 nd October 2013
Mr Hugh Bateman Parent Governor	22 nd October 2013
Mr Dave Humphrey Parent Governor	26 th January 2014
Mrs Kim Crisp Non-Teaching Staff Governor	30 th September 2012
Mrs Laura Latham Teaching Staff Governor	November 2011
Clerk – Mrs Jo Gardner	N/A