

School Update

Friday 27th October 2023

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In this weeks update:

- Great news!
- PTFA Update
- Diary Dates
- Dogs on the school site
- HOPS High 5



Great news!

As I mentioned in previous newsletters, we recently received a SIAMS Inspection and today the report arrived in our inbox. There is much to celebrate within it—including some wonderful quotes about pastoral care and our place in the local community.

Unlike previous inspections, there are no one-word gradings for schools following a SIAMS inspection. Instead, the school is judged to either be *living up to it's foundation as a Church school* or not— and I'm delighted to say that we are.

I've attached a copy of the Report in full for your perusal, so please do give it a look. Have a good weekend, Steve Dunn, HT

Autumn Term 2023

November 2023

Fri 3rd	Mr Hatley's Assembly—9am
Wed 8th	Mental Health Champion Training—Year 3
Fri 10th	Mr Burdett's Assembly—9am Remembrance Day
Fri 17th	Children in Need Day
Fri 24th	Miss Burton's Assembly—9am PTFA Non-uniform day—prize donations!

December 2023

Fri 1st	Christmas Tree Festival
Sat 2nd	Village Christmas Lights switch-on
Tues 5th	Seasonal flu vaccination, R to Year 6
Fri 8th	Mrs Bird's Assembly—9am
Tues 19th	Christmas Dinner/ Christmas Jumper Day!
Thur 21st	PTFA Christmas Disco—details to follow
Fri 22nd	Last day of term

Spring Term 2024

January 2023

Mon 8th	School opens for Spring Term
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Non Uniform Day: 24 November 2023 We are hosting a non uniform day in exchange for Christmas decorations or Christmas gifts.

Christmas Tree Festival: 2nd December 2023 The PTFA will be exhibiting a tree at this year's festival. Do you have a Christmas Tree you are considering replacing that you could gift or a spare one the PTFA could borrow between 28th November and 5th December 2023?

Christmas Discos: 21st December 2023 Tickets will go one sale w/c 27 November 2023

Next meeting: 1st November 2023 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start. Location: TBC - will announce on Facebook shortly Join us for our next meeting if you would like to get involved in any capacity e.g., parent ambassador, lead on specific events (non uniform days; discos; Frozen Fridays; raffles).

Contact us at PTFA@hall-orchard.leics.sch.uk

Dogs on the school site

Just a polite reminder that we do not allow dogs (even cute, well-behaved ones!) or any other animals on the school site (either at drop off or pick up). Please either leave them at home, tie them up to one of the fences or ask someone to hold onto them for a few minutes if you need to come onto the playgrounds or speak to a member of staff. Many thanks for your cooperation.



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HOPS High 5

This week our whole-school reward system called **HOPS High 5**—based on our 5 core values was again celebrated. We've linked our school rules to these values so the children are rewarded for living them through their positive behaviours. They earn value points each time they demonstrate one of these values, with the overall aim of achieving enough points to receive a values badge. Interim certificates will be issued at regular milestones and weekly **Values Awards** are given out to children showing their commitment to the **value of the week**.



This week our very first **Bronze Award** winners were announced—all of them from Year 6! They have collected at least 20 points of one or more of our 5 key values. A massive well done to them!



We were delighted to award our **Values Awards** in assembly this week, with children from across the school receiving them for demonstrating our Core Values. Our theme in CoWo this week was **Friendship**. Based on Proverbs 17:17 *A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity.* We have considered what makes a good friend and how we can be there for others. The week was concluded with a wonderfully thoughtful assembly led by Mrs Miles/Mrs Conerons's Year 2 class.

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Hall Orchard Church of England VC Primary School	
Address	Church Street, Barrow upon Soar, Loughborough, LE12 8HP

School vision
<p>Hall Orchard Church of England Primary is a proud Church of England Academy. Our Christian family encourages those of all faiths and none to value and celebrate our diversity. We grow together as a community of unique individuals, doing everything in love. Our whole school vision is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For our children to be confident, ambitious learners who demonstrate the personal values and skills necessary to make a positive contribution to the global community. • To be an excellent school where all children achieve their best. <p>This is summed up by the following Bible verse: 'Let us be concerned for one another, to help one another to show love and to do good.' from Hebrews 10:24. Our vision is perfectly illustrated through the story of The Good Samaritan.</p>
School strengths
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school Christian vision and values, rooted in biblical understanding, permeate all aspects of school life, so all are able to flourish. The vision drives the work of the school. • Relationships between all members of the school community are supportive, enabling all to live together well. The approach to behaviour means that all are encouraged to value each other and act with respect. Everyone matters and all are cared for in this school. • The school is at the heart of the community. The vision is used to underpin the work of the school, with a focus on sharing the values with the whole community. Support for families is integral to the work of the school. • Collective worship is inclusive, invitational and rooted in the school vision and values. It contributes to the development of pupils and adults spiritual flourishing. It is lived out further in the classroom through their recording and reflections. • Religious education (RE) lessons are a safe place for pupils to explore their own and others' beliefs. Pupils have a good understanding of Christianity and of other major world faiths.
Areas for development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a shared language and understanding of spirituality so that teachers can plan and provide progressively deeper experiences across the curriculum. • Strengthen pupils' understanding of justice and responsibility so that all pupils are able to have the opportunity to challenge injustice for themselves.

Inspection findings

Hall Orchard is a welcoming and inclusive Church school where all are happy to belong.

The distinctly Christian vision is rooted in biblical understanding. It is promoted by leadership at all levels and is the driving force that underpins the work of the school. The school has recently been on a journey in renewing their role as a Church school. This led to the successful revision of the school Christian vision, which has been simplified. The Bible verse in the vision is at the heart of all that the school does. Carefully chosen Christian values underpin the vision and are reflected in the school's chosen parable, the Good Samaritan. These values are lived out by the whole school community. Governors know the school well, and monitor provision, including RE and collective worship. The vision has a clear impact on the daily life of the school, enabling all to flourish.

The school's inclusive approach, shaped by the vision, ensures that pupils and adults are treated well. Sensitive care for those with learning, or social and communication needs, is seen at every turn. Staff talk about 'meeting children where they are' in order to help them flourish. The 'rainbow room' and the 'hive' support pupils and families, including the most vulnerable, providing a comfortable environment for discussion and interventions. The policy 'promoting positive relationships and behaviour' is aligned with the Christian vision and values. This ensures that there is a safe, caring environment with a commitment to the mental health and wellbeing of all. As a result, pupils and adults feel safe and know that leaders will help them. Some pupils are trained as mental health champions. These pupils are clear that their role is to 'walk alongside those who need help' and it is evident that this happens. Pupils are clear that they should show the school values 'to be our best self'. They talk confidently about how the values help them know how to treat others well. Pastoral care is a strength of the school.

Driven by the vision's biblical underpinning, the school expects everyone to act with responsibility towards others. Through exploring British values alongside the school Christian values, meaningful opportunities are given for pupils to consider difference and diversity. The impact of this is evident as people are accepted for the person that they are, leading to a culture where all are treated well. Pupils are encouraged to explore ethical choices. Inspired by the vision, they are confident to 'live the values' through charity work both within and beyond the school. For example, each class is working to 'twin' each school toilet with one in another country. However, pupils are not always clear as to how they can understand and promote justice and responsibility for themselves.

The curriculum reflects the school vision and is designed to inspire children to strive for success and to flourish. The focus on individual needs, and understanding that 'nothing works for everyone', means that learning is adapted to the needs of the pupil. Effective links are made between the RE curriculum and other curriculum areas. For example, learning about the holocaust and Judaism have been brought together in order to enhance children's learning. Spirituality is evident in actions around the school. However, the school does not yet have a shared language around spirituality to offer deeper experiences for spiritual growth across the curriculum. Leaders are exploring moments in the curriculum where pupils can think about the world around them. The art and RE leaders have worked together to develop a spirituality-based arts programme that reflects the vision of the school through shared artwork.

Partnerships are strong between the school and the community. The spiritual arts programme encourages links with the village, including a joint community and school 'tree of love'. Artwork is shared with the locality via newsletters, in village shops and in the church. The school has a good link with the diocese. There has been benefit from training for both collective worship and RE. The RE lead is working with the diocese to take the lead on developing collective worship within the local hub of schools. There is a strong partnership with the local church, who regularly lead worship, as do

leaders from the local Baptist and Methodist churches.

RE is well-planned and resourced. It is led by a knowledgeable subject lead who provides good support for staff. Pupils have a good understanding of Christianity. They recognise that they learn RE so that they can respect and understand the beliefs of others. They explore a range of world faiths and talk confidently about what they have learnt. The subject makes a strong contribution to flourishing and to how pupils connect with, and are interested in, others. Older pupils enjoy discussions about belief. For example, a Year 6 pupil, talking about humanism, stated that 'I think it is a philosophy, a code for living, rather than a religion.' Pupils rightly say that RE is a safe space to discuss differing views and that they learn to disagree well. Recently, staff have begun considering worldviews, including exploring Christianity as a world faith. This is enabling pupils to better recognise the diverse world in which they live.

Collective worship is firmly rooted in the Christian vision. It is inclusive and invitational, enabling pupils to reflect thoughtfully about the application of their values and Bible stories. Worship is carefully and effectively planned to be biblically based, exploring the school's vision and values. The school's adopted Bible story is revisited each half-term, with a focus on the school value for that moment. As a result, pupils know the story well and reflect on the school values in its context. The daily act of worship is central to the life of the school and contributes to children flourishing spiritually. Pupils clearly recognise the value of collective worship, saying that it is a time to 'reflect and calm down'. The spiritual council take a lead in the celebration of key festivals and have helped to develop the peace garden. This is a place where pupils spend valuable time reflecting on the school values and vision. They successfully worked together to write the school prayer that reflects the school vision. They work in partnership with a faith council from another local Church school, sharing ideas and sharing in worship to drive developments in pupil-led worship in the school. There are opportunities to reflect, linked to the Christian values through reflection areas in the classrooms. Reflection books are used effectively to allow pupils to reflect on the weekly collective worship theme. These contain thoughtful and thought-provoking responses.

The inspection findings indicate that Hall Orchard Church of England Primary School is living up to its foundation as a Church school.

Information			
Inspection date	2 October 2023	URN	140230
VC/VA/Academy	Academy	Pupils on roll	518
Diocese	Leicester		
MAT/Federation			
Headteacher	Stephen Dunn		
Chair	Victoria Bowman		
Inspector	Megan Davis	No.	2212