



One family learning for life, on a journey towards our potential.

Church of England, Voluntary Aided School

www.kennetvalley.wilts.sch.uk

April 2018 Update

It was a great end of term and a very proud moment for the school when our tag rugby team finished 4th out of 18 teams in the local festival (beaten by just three teams from two larger schools.) Some of our year 5 pupils played too and really stepped up to the mark and made a valuable contribution to the team. Our team was congratulated on performing exceptionally well in every match and for demonstrating the best fair play and positive attitude throughout the day! We couldn't ask for more. They played with great determination and team work in some tough matches. As always we are especially grateful to the parents and helpers who supported us on the day, including Mr. Robins for helping with the coaching. The children were muddy and exceptionally happy at the end of the day! It's great that our small school has been doing so well in sporting events over the last few years and this is testimony to the dedication of Mrs. Blackmore in stretching and motivating our teams so well.

I am delighted to let you know that at the end of March I was appointed as the new Head of Kennet Valley School. I am fully committed to progressing improvements to all that the school provides and to drive our school to achieve great things. I am grateful to the teaching team and governors for their support, challenge and encouragement and also to the parents for all they do to make the school such a special place in the village to learn and grow.

I am also very pleased to announce that our recent SIAMS Inspection (Statutory Inspection of Anglican & Methodist Schools) has awarded us a Good status. This inspection reviews the distinctive Christian character of the school, collective worship and effectiveness of religious education and teaching, leadership and management in addition to our performance and pupil progress.

We were very pleased with this grading and that the report recognised "the Christian character of the school is clearly evident through the positive relationships, rooted in love, care and empathy, which exist between all members of the school community." Also that there is a "... seamless partnership between the school, church and wider local community which is highly valued by all connected with the school. The church provides an impressive level of spiritual support and guidance to children, staff and parents at the school." We believe this is a strong foundation to continue building our school and that this creates a most constructive learning environment for our pupils.

Watch out for maypole dancing practices in the playground in readiness for our school spring fair on Friday 8th June in the afternoon. You are all very welcome to join us for tea and cakes on this occasion which is kindly organised by The Friends and where many of the table top stalls will be organised by the children.

Over the next term we will be having a strong focus on geography and science in school. The geography will include looking at countries around the world and comparing these to our own location and lives, in addition to environmental studies. In science we will be looking at growth and habitats, with much of this learning taking place outside.

The Easter holidays have largely dominated April and so a fuller report and update of our activities will follow in May/June when we have a range of exciting events and curriculum activities planned.

Mrs Emma Russell, Headteacher