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Freeman Community Primary School Annual Report 2022-23

The past year has been another busy and exciting one for the children at Freeman. The staff work incredibly hard to make the learning as exciting and purposeful as possible for the children.

In the last academic year, our Year 6 children enjoyed a residential trip to Whitwell, our first residential since before the pandemic! The children had a great time and the staff were impressed with how the children applied themselves to the different activities. This year, the children in 6 went to Bawdsey where they too had a great time and showed great character in tackling the range of different activities put before them. A great time was had by them all, although the staff were a little tired on their return.

In the summer term 2022 the children took part in a sports week with visits from coaches or participants in various sports teaching the children skills in gymnastics, cycle speedway, curling, martial arts and a fitness coach just an example of what the children took part in during the week. Building on the success of previous years we have a similar programme planned for the summer term this year. The sporting theme continues all year round as the children across the school enter sporting fixtures against other schools where they conduct themselves with great sportsmanship, excellent behaviour and are a true credit to the school. The number of competitions we take part in is gradually increasing and at the time of writing this report the children will be taking part in a gymnastics competition over the next two weeks. The children do very well in these tournaments and we look forward to participating in more in the coming terms. We are lucky to have a great team of staff who do a fantastic job to prepare the children for these events.

At Christmas we were able to perform our nativities to parents, carers and family members in person for the first time in two years. These were well received and it was great to see the huge smiles on the children's faces. Year 1 and 5 children were able to sing some songs to the residents of Jubilee Court which was enjoyed by both the residents and children.

Music features highly in our school and we have very popular string and woodwind groups who enjoy learning their instruments with the talented music teachers who come in to our school. Our Year 5 children also learn to play the guitar and we look forward to being able to perform at the Apex in later this term. The music teacher tells the school regularly how impressed he is with the children and the school and how well they are doing.

We continue to enjoy good links with the Holy Trinity Church with fortnightly assemblies from Open the Book team which are well received by the children. The children look forward to these assemblies as well as the visits to the church throughout the year.

At the end of the last school year we said goodbye to our Year 6 children who left us to go on to high school. This is always a time of mixed emotions, joy in recalling their many happy memories at school and sadness when we say farewell to children, some of whom have been with us for seven years, however we

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From tiny acorns do mighty oaks grow

know they are ready for the next phase in the educational journey and we are lucky to have such a good high school only next door where the majority of our children go to. The leaver's assembly, was an emotional event but we hope that the children and parents leave Freeman with many happy memories of their time with us. We are proud of you all!

We have just started the installation of a Daily Mile / Wellbeing route and we are very grateful to the Parish Council for approving a PIIP bid that has resulted in the project being completed several years earlier than it would have been without the grant.

Stowupland Friends of Freeman are operating at full capacity this year. They have been busy raising significant funds enabling them to purchase 15 new laptops for the school and continue to fund raise for the different projects we have, including outdoor play equipment, planners for the children and new books for the library.

In education we never stand still and we look forward to another exciting year ahead. For more information about all the things we do at Freeman please visit our website, Twitter or see the monthly contributions in Telstar.

Daniel Pettitt, Headteacher

From the Chair of Governors

While Covid-19 lockdowns have ceased we have this last year had a number of staff and children who have been subject to positive Covid-19 tests as well as other coughs and colds. So we continue to be a busy school with a full roll of pupils, and a committed and competent teaching and support staff, extremely well led by an enthusiastic and experienced Head

We successfully recruited both Community and Parent Governors, and now have a full complement, but there is always an opportunity for us to welcome additional governors as parent governors leave when their children leave the school. The Governors meetings continued, face to face at the school and on-line. Several governors have left having given valuable service to the school and have been keen supporters.

Sue Hayter, Chair of Governors