

# The Saints Federation



**St Peter's C.E. (A) First School**  
Town Head  
Alton  
Stoke on Trent  
Staffordshire  
ST10 4AW



**All Saints' C.E. (C) First School**  
Oak Road  
Denstone  
Uttoxeter  
Staffordshire  
ST14 5HT



**St Augustine's CE (C) First School**  
Pipe Hay Lane  
Draycott in the Clay  
Ashbourne  
Derbyshire  
DE6 5BY

## GOVERNORS' NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2017

### 'OFSTED' and 'SIAMS'

The last few weeks have seen both All Saints and St Peter's undergo two separate inspections—SIAMS, which judges the Christian distinctiveness of the school and OFSTED, which examines all aspects of school life and work. These four inspections arrived in quick succession and were carried out by different teams of inspectors but in all cases, the schools received much praise for the quality of their work and the service they offer their pupils:-

- “Behaviour and relationships are very good” “All children make rapid progress” “Teaching and learning in RE is consistently good” “School's Christian character results in good academic and personal development” (St Peter's SIAMS)
- “Effective senior leadership strongly supported by staff” “Excellent relationships and interaction between teachers and pupils” “All pupils feel valued” “School leaders and governors are successful in ensuring the academic, pastoral and spiritual needs of all groups of pupils are being met” (All Saints SIAMS)
- “Governance is strong” “Pupils make good progress in reading, writing and mathematics in key stage 2” “Good use is made of the leaders and staff from across the federation of three schools to ensure consistency and accurate assessments of pupils' achievements” “Teaching remains good and has many strong features” “Pupils behave exceptionally well in lessons” “Good provision for all early years children has been maintained” (St Peter's OFSTED)
- “High expectations of all members of the school community” “Pupils show great pride in their school” “Governors are a highly effective force within the leadership of the school” “Pupils are well prepared for when they move to the next stage of their education” “Highly effective use has been made through sharing leadership across the three schools .... helped in extending learning opportunities for pupils” (All Saints OFSTED)

These are just snippets from the four reports but the full transcripts may be viewed on the individual school websites.

Needless to say, the governors are proud of the achievements of pupils and staff and these excellent inspection judgments are justifiably deserved. A particular thanks should go to Miss Robson, Mrs Walker and Mrs Bennett who, as the senior leadership team, have steered the three schools so ably over the last three years. Just in case St Augustine's are feeling left out of the inspection cycle, it is worth remembering they were judged 'Outstanding' at their last inspection and this was reaffirmed at a recent mini inspection, led by an OFSTED Inspector and commissioned by the Federation.

***Well done to all—pupils, staff, parents and governors!***

## **CHANGES AT THE TOP**

Since last September, the Federation has been very effectively led by its Senior Leadership Team — Miss Robson, Mrs Walker and Mrs Bennett. Miss Robson retained her role as Executive Headteacher across the three schools with Mrs Walker as Deputy Headteacher and Mrs Bennett as Head of School at St Peter's, Alton. The strength of this team was demonstrated during the Autumn Term when Miss Robson was away for a prolonged period through ill health and in the observations of the OFSTED Inspectors. At the start of this term, Miss Robson made a request to the governors to reduce her contract to 0.5 from the beginning of the next academic year. After considerable discussion and consultation with external HR officers, the governors agreed to create a co-headship from the beginning of September 2017 with the role being shared between two people. We are delighted to tell you that Mrs Walker was interviewed and appointed to share the headteacher role with Miss Robson. So, from the start of next year, Miss Robson will be employed by the Federation for half the week, Mrs Walker will still be employed full time— half the week as headteacher and the remaining half covering her responsibilities as Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator. Mrs Bennett will continue as Head of School at St Peter's Alton. The governors believe this new arrangement will build on the strength of relationship amongst the senior leadership team and further enhance their vision and enthusiasm for the development of the Federation which was so clearly recognised in our recent OFSTED Inspections. More details about how the new arrangement will operate will be published during the Summer Term.

## **SCHOOLS TOGETHER**

## ***INTO SPACE***



The Saint's Federation had a wonderful day at The National Space Centre in Leicester on 28th February. They were welcomed by a Stormtrooper as they entered the centre. They enjoyed looking at the constellations in the Planetarium and learnt about why we have day and night. They had their lunch by a smoking rocket! Each child had a

go on a space riders game and they had their photos taken as astronauts! The day ended with exploring space artefacts and finding out how life in space is different to life on earth.



## ***LEARNING ABOUT WWII***

Children from all three schools visited the Museum of Cannock Chase for a WWII experience. It was an utterly brilliant day, jam-packed with interesting and engaging activities for the children to immerse themselves in. They took part in an air raid where the children heard a real-life siren, explored genuine WWII artefacts, visited a 1940s living room and carried out role play as evacuees! Their guide for the day was fantastic and really brought the experience to life for both the children and the adults!



On behalf of the staff and governors of the Saints Federation, I wish you a very Happy Easter.

Terry Davies, Chair of Governors