

## Report from Headteacher to Ash Annual Parish Meeting – April 2021

We have had a very successful 2 years. After being judged requires improvement in 2015 and 2017 we are now a 'good' in all areas school (Ofsted September 2019) – our Ofsted report was very positive and praised our nurturing and caring environment – it was recognised as a school where everyone is welcome and cared for. The report stated 'the education on offer at pupils at this school has improved since the last inspection. The headteacher and her team have a strong vision, which is built on the school values...the headteacher and staff have developed a curriculum that meets the needs of all pupils'. As a community we should be delighted with this report, we really want everyone from the village to attend their local school – children deserve the very best education. We also received a glowing SIAMS (Church Inspection) report in September 2019 after being judged as requires improvement in December 2016. We were judged good in all areas. This report stated 'There has been very rapid improvement since the previous denominational inspection, coinciding with the arrival of the current headteacher and the effective staff team which has built...there is rapid improvement that is sustainable and based on a clear Christian vision with an inclusive and aspirational view of education'.

We continue to benefit enormously with generous donations from local charities. Jack Foat recently contributed towards a project to buy our school minibus and this year they have donated money to ensure that we can replace our outdoor learning gazebo and have fully funded a learning/after school club lodge for the children. These will be very well used! Cartwright, Godfrey and Kelsey donated funds to ensure that we could install a bird hide in our nature garden – the children have really enjoyed watching the local wildlife. We have a hard working and committed PTFA that have also contributed to school improvements/trips for the children and a governing body that are dedicated to the school. We are part of a strong HUB of Dover Schools that offer the children opportunities to take part in events such as chess, poetry reading,

*gifted and talented events, music collaborations and school council events at the Dover Chamber of Commerce.*

*We were very sad to hear of the passing of Ann Foat – the Heritage group gave the school a lot of support and Ann continued to come in and hear the children read until she got very poorly. I made sure I attended her funeral at St Nicholas Church to say thank you and goodbye from the school.*

*We continue to be ambitious for our school and the children who attend. This year we are focusing on outdoor education and we are continuing to improve our outdoor spaces. Whilst Covid 19 could have significantly disrupted the pupils' education, we continued to provide face to face and remote learning. Our staff were in school everyday and I feel blessed to be part of such a strong community and am lucky to have such a dedicated staff. Our village school will continue to go from strength to strength.*

*Fiona Crascall – Headteacher*

*Ash Cartwright and Kelsey (Aided) Primary School*