

A Welcome from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am proud to be the Headteacher of this wonderful community where our school values: courage, love, joy and truth are at the heart of all we do. We work together as a team to foster a love of learning and to encourage spiritual growth; cherishing our partnerships with our committed parent body, our local churches and our neighbours – the wider community.

We aim to equip our children to attain the highest possible academic standards and to be compassionate and responsible individuals. Our caring environment and exciting approach to learning are designed to enable our children to develop confidence and resilience and to always give of their best. This was clearly seen by the inspector that visited in September 2016 on behalf of the Church of England and Methodists who awarded our school an **'outstanding'** grade. This was further demonstrated in our most recent Ofsted report, which commented, "Pupils achieve well at Park Street. They make good progress across the school."

We have an amazing outdoor space and use our fields and woodland to enhance our curriculum. In the Wellbeing Wood we encourage Social, Emotional, Spiritual and Cultural learning and growth through outdoor and adventurous activities. The children thoroughly enjoy den building, solving challenges and other outdoor pursuits that help them develop teamwork and leadership skills, as well as build self-esteem and confidence.

Our parents were so pleased with all we do to inspire and educate their children that we were nominated and, I really proud to say, **won** the Herts Advertiser Primary School of the Year 2019; a real achievement and confirmation of all we offer at Park Street C of E Primary School and Nursery.

Also during 2019 we achieved the Gold award for our PE & Sports provision following an amazing year of sport. We won St Albans Small Schools cross country trophy as well as the Girls Cross Country league; our Netball team won the St Albans League and came third in the District Tournament. We also qualified for the finals of the District Sportshall Athletics competition. We have celebrated another year of running the Daily Mile and Wheelie Wednesday.

The best way to have a real understanding of what we are about is to come and visit us, which you are warmly invited to do by contacting our school office. Obviously during Covid 19, our arrangements will change. We will have small groups after school and an EYFS virtual visit, but for now why not view our Virtual Tour on the school website to give you an idea of our school.

We really do hope to see you soon.

Mrs Wendy-May Foster
Headteacher

A Word from the Chair of the Governing Body

Dear Parents and Carers

Park Street Church of England Primary School is a great school. There is always so much going on and each term brings more opportunities and experiences for our children. Staff, governors and families work together to achieve the best possible start for our children; Park Street School is a place where children can thrive.

Our teachers and school staff are a wonderful asset, a dedicated team who work together to support our children's learning. They work hard to deliver creative and engaging lessons which bring learning to life. The theme weeks such as 'art week' and 'geography week' widen our children's knowledge and enhance their skills across a broad and enriched curriculum. Our fantastic woodland area and outdoor area give our children a super place to explore the natural world and begin to understand its awe and importance.

In return our children are eager to learn and enjoy school life. It is wonderful to watch them flourish. As they move up the school we see them become more independent, more confident and ready to engage in exciting things that lie ahead.

We have close links with Holy Trinity Church and Park Street Baptist Church, the clergy lead Bible Assemblies on a Wednesday morning. We are also supported by the parents Prayer Group who meet regularly. The Governors are very grateful for all the hard work that the PSSA continues to do to enhance the children's education.

At our last OFSTED inspection we were rated as good and are currently working hard to become outstanding. SIAMS rated us as an Outstanding Church School. These are strong commendations and added to these, it is stepping inside the school gates that shows the school's strength and inspiration.

As we go forward together to achieve our aims of "Together we learn, Together with God" I pray that our school and our children endorse our school values of Love, Joy, Truth and Courage now and in the future.

Mrs Barbara Graham

Chair of Governors

Our School Motto, Values & Aims

Our Motto and Values were developed with input from all members of the school community. Our aims were reviewed by all the children and staff in the school this term.

Our School Motto is:

Together we learn; Together with God

To live out our Motto means that we need a set of foundational Christian values on which to build our school.

Our Values are:

Courage; Love; Joy & Truth

These values are woven into all facets of life and teaching within our school.

From our values we derived a set of aims to inspire all in the school community to exercise these values in daily life at the school.

Our Aims are:

To foster a lifelong love of learning with children achieving their full potential using creative inquiring minds.

To encourage spiritual growth with an understanding of Christian faith and values.

To develop children who can build good relationships with others based on personal self esteem and love of others.

To build people who are responsible citizens of the whole community with a concern for their environment.

These aims are simplified as follows to make it easier for the children to understand and embrace them:

We want to learn and always do as well as we can.

We want to understand more about God and how He wants us to live.

We will love and care for each other.

We will look after our world and everything in it.

SIAMS Report

As a Church of England Voluntary Aided School we have a separate 'Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools' in addition to an Ofsted inspection. We had this inspection in September 2016 and were delighted that we were awarded the grade '**outstanding**' for our life and work as a Church school. These are some of the quotes from our most recent inspection:

The school has a distinctively Christian family atmosphere where pupils all feel valued. This has a significant impact on pupils' achievement and progress, which is in the top 1% in Hertfordshire.

Pupils demonstrate the school's Christian values in the way they behave to others. They are polite, friendly, well-mannered and articulate. Pupils from other cultures and faiths, although small in number, feel welcome and say how their individual traditions are celebrated.

Pupils' personal development and wellbeing are strengths of the school and behaviour is exemplary.

The full version of this report can be found on our website at www.parkstreetprimary.org.uk

OFSTED Report

The inspection was on 13 October 2016, and the inspector judged that this school continues to be good. The inspector noted that:

"Very good links are made with parents before children start at the school and this helps to ensure that children get off to a good start in the Nursery and Reception classes. The learning areas are stimulating, both indoors and outdoors, and children have fun investigating and exploring the many exciting activities that are provided for them. Children enjoy school and quickly develop confidence and good attitudes to learning."

"Pupils behave well in lessons and at breaktimes. They have excellent attitudes to learning, and the relationship between pupils and the adults who teach them is a real strength of the school."

"Parents who met with the inspector, and many who responded to Parent View, were extremely positive about the school. A typical response was: 'Park Street is a warm, friendly and safe environment and both our children enjoy going to school and are very happy.'"

Recently Published Results for the End of Each Key Stage

Attainment and Progress Tables 2019

EYFS

The percentage of children awarded an expected or exceeding grade in **Good Level of Development** was **86.2%**. The National percentage in 2018 was 71.5%

Phonics

The percentage of children awarded an expected grade was **80%**.

KS1 Attainment Levels

	Our School % At or Above Expected	National % At or Above Expected
Reading	85.2	75
Writing	77.8	69
Maths	74.1	76
Science	85.2	82
RWM	66.7	

KS2 Attainment

	Our School % Scaled Score of 100 or higher At or above expected	National % Scaled Score of 100 or higher At or above expected
Reading	84.6	73.1
GAPS	92.3	78.4
Maths	92.3	78.6
Writing TA	88.5	82.9
RWM	76.9	64.8

KS2 Progress Measures

	Our School	National Standards	
		Floor 65%	Coasting 85%
Reading	2.5	-5	-2.5
Writing	-1.8	-7	-3.5
Maths	-1.4	-5	-2.5

Staff and Structure

We are fortunate to have a very experienced staff team. Our Headteacher, Mrs Foster, is ably supported by two Assistant Headteachers as well as by an excellent Foundation Stage leader and English Subject Leader. All of our teaching staff are dedicated professionals and each of them is supported by an experienced teaching assistant. We also have a qualified Special Needs Co-ordinator, Mrs Castro, who leads in this work and devises specialised programmes for those children who need them. Our staff are ably supported by Mrs Connon and Mrs Wright in the school office.

Here is a current list of our dedicated teaching staff.

Early Years Foundation Stage	Nursery	3-4years old	Mrs Duxbury with Mrs Fowler and Mrs Mitchell
	Reception	4-5years old	Mrs Duxbury with Mrs Fowler and Mrs Mitchell
Key Stage 1	Year 1	5-6 years old	Miss Connolly with Miss Kitt
	Year 2	6-7 years old	Mrs Leto (3 days) and Miss Atkinson (2 days) with Miss Kitt
Key Stage 2	Year 3	7-8 years old	Miss Ashton
	Year 4	8-9 years old	Mr McLaughlin with Mrs Payne
	Year 5	9-10 years old	Miss McVeigh with Mrs Payne
	Year 6	10-11 years old	Mr Munro with Mrs Marsh

For a full list of all staff and the governing body of the Park Street School community please visit our website. www.parkstreetprimary.org.uk

Our Creative Curriculum

We work hard to ensure that our curriculum motivates all children to want to learn and achieve their full potential. In order to do this we teach much of the National Curriculum through topics which engage our children's interest. These topics change and develop to meet the needs of our children. An example topic might be 'The Great Fire of London' and the children would undertake a number of activities in relation to the topic including: learning about the history of the fire, the geography of the area, they might construct houses of the period, write a diary like Samuel Pepys and produce a newspaper article reporting on the fire, look at artists' depiction of the event and paint their own pictures. They might be taught the skills needed to research this period using computers or how to make a Powerpoint presentation of their findings.

We find that our pupils become so enthused by this means of learning that they will often freely carry on with their learning at home and then bring it back into school to share with us.

Of course there are some subjects like phonics, spelling, maths, religious education, physical education, personal, social and health education, French (for Key Stage 2) and, sometimes, music which will usually be taught separately from our topics.

Our School Day

Morning Session

Nursery	8.55 - 12.00 (Lunch Club is offered from 12 till 1.00 and 30 hours Nursery from 9.00 – 3.15)
Reception	8.55 - 12.15
Y1 – Y6	8.55 - 12.15 Break 10.30 - 10.45

Afternoon Session

Reception	1.15 - 3.15
Y1 & Y2	1.15 - 3.15
Y3-Y6	1.15 - 3.15

Children should not arrive at school before 8.40 am.

Punctual arrival by children by 8.55 am. is important in learning good life habits and to get the day off to a positive start for themselves and their class.

We also offer wrap around care from 7.30am – 6pm, for all pupils in Reception upwards.

What parents have to say about our school

I like the Christian values that are instilled in the children. Park Street has a lovely small local friendly community feel to it.

Because there is only one class per year, it is easy for the children to get to know each other quickly which means they settle in very well. My daughter calls her classmates her "extended family".

Park Street is a very caring school; the children are looked after very well and steered in the right direction for life.

The school has a very family orientated feel to it and so the children feel right at home in their learning environment.

The school has a great community feel to it and as a parent I feel part of this community. My children are happy and feel very safe at Park Street. I love the ethos of the school and the fact that the staff bring out the best in the children.

What our children think of the school

I like assembly because we learn about God.

I like my teachers because we get to do fun things while we're learning.

I like my teacher because she teaches us loads of good things and she's really helpful.

I really like Park Street School because all the teachers are really nice and they help us all.

The teachers are really good because they always encourage you.

I like Park Street because we get to make all sorts of things. It's good for learning, we get a good education and there are lots of after school clubs. I like cheerleading the best.

I like Park Street because it feels safe and you get a good education. Teachers understand if something goes wrong, they try to understand from your point of view and they are very helpful.

I like the teachers here because they're really kind...we also have really good equipment so we can do experiments and learn new stuff.

I just like having teachers that are always supportive and try to push you to do your best.

I really enjoy the school because it gives lots of opportunities to us. In the build up to SATs lots of people were worried about it so our teacher decided to hold a Maths club on Mondays to help a few people who were finding it quite hard.

It's a nice safe environment for us and teachers are always on the lookout.

School Uniform

All children attending Park Street Primary School and Nursery are required to wear the correct school uniform. Those items with logos can be purchased at Stevensons School Uniform shop in Victoria Street, St Albans and can be bought directly from the shop or online at www.stevensons.co.uk.

Boys Grey school trousers or shorts (tailored with a zip either at the front or the side)

White polo shirt
Burgundy School Sweatshirt or cardigan with school logo
White/black/grey ankle socks
Sensible black shoes

Girls Grey Skirt or Pinafore
White polo shirt
Burgundy School Sweatshirt or Cardigan with school logo
White/black/grey ankle socks or grey, black or white tights
Girls are allowed to wear grey school trousers or shorts if they wish.
They must be similar to those worn by boys, tailored with a zip either at the front or the side

Summer Term only

Pink and white checked school dresses in summer
(Y5 & Y6 girls optional summer wear: Grey skirt with white blouse or polo shirt)
Trainer socks may be worn
Sensible black shoes

P.E. Kit

All children are expected to change fully for PE and go outside during the winter months.
Burgundy shorts (not cycling shorts)
Sky blue Tee Shirt with school logo
Plimsolls or Trainers
Black/Blue/Burgundy Jogging bottoms and separate top/jacket for cold weather.

All children need a named P.E. kit bag to be kept in school.

All items of clothing need to be clearly marked with the child's name.

We encourage all children to bring a water bottle to school each day. This also includes outdoor shoes/trainers or wellington boots (to go on the field during the winter months)

Children should not wear nail varnish, body transfers, wrist bands/ holiday bands etc or hair-braiding with beads at the ends to school. Fundraising bands may be worn at the time of the event but not at other times during the year.

The wearing of jewellery is discouraged at all times. If your child has pierced ears only the plain stud is allowed on the grounds of safety. Children must be confident to remove their own earrings for PE lessons. They will need to provide their own container to store

the earrings when removed. The school cannot take responsibility for any loss or damage to earrings. For newly pierced ears, they may be taped up during the healing period.

Bands, ties and scrunchies for hair should be plain and in one of the school colours – burgundy, white or grey. Any child with shoulder length hair, or longer, needs to have it tied back. Shapes, lines etc shaved into hair are not allowed. Your child may wear a watch but this cannot be a smart watch as stated in our E-safety policy. If you allow your child to wear a Fitbit or another expensive brand, the school cannot take responsibility if it is damaged or lost.