



Little Melton Primary School

School Organisation

Little Melton is a growing primary school ranging from Reception to the end of Year 6. The school is divided into 3 stages, Foundation Stage, which covers the Reception year, Key Stage 1, which covers Years 1& 2, and Key Stage 2 which covers years 3 to 6. We have mixed classes, with support from teaching assistants. Specialist subject teachers extend the curriculum whenever possible.

The school is run by a strong cohesive team consisting of the Headteacher, teaching staff, learning support and administrative staff, School Governors, parents and the School Council. The children have a very active part to play in the day to day running of the school.



The School Environment and Facilities

We firmly believe an attractive stimulating environment leads to the development of inquisitive and all round thinking individuals. The whole school team contribute actively to achieve and maintain this through ongoing evaluation of our excellent facilities and equipment. Computers and interactive whiteboards support the curriculum in every subject.

The extensive grounds enable us to offer many sporting facilities and imaginative play. We enable the children to experience a variety of sporting activities either in lesson time or in extra curricular clubs.

The "Friends" of the school have provided play sheds, a maze, a pond and environmental study area, wooden climbing apparatus and basketball hoop. Community links are developed through our successful annual May Fair. A local junior football team uses our facilities.

A new classroom, hall and library area will be in place by 2007.

The Curriculum

We believe in a broad, stimulating and balanced integrated curriculum. Planning is detailed and structured in line with the national curriculum learning objectives but allows flexibility, creativity and challenges with meaningful links across the subject areas.



Each child is an individual and recognition of individual needs is paramount to the philosophy of the school. Children are aware of their learning targets and goals and play an integral part in planning. Through being involved in monitoring their own progress and achievements against weekly learning objectives they are challenged and develop self-motivation and self-discipline. Records are kept by the children in their own target books.



Presently all year 3 children have swimming lessons at the nearby junior school in Hethersett. We supplement the curriculum wherever possible by inviting visitors into school and by going on trips. We are always looking at ways of extending our children's experiences.

We have a daily assembly to share successes and to emphasise the cultural values that form the foundations of our daily lives.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from Religious Education and assembly.



French

French is taught by a specialist teacher from Years 1-6

Music

Children in Years 2 and 3 learn the recorder. We also teach music as an integrated part of our curriculum. We have a variety of instruments including keyboards, glockenspiels and a variety of percussion instruments. Older children will have the opportunity to learn a variety of instruments with specialist teachers.



Art and Design Technology

We have an art afternoon every week where children from Year 1 upwards work together in Art and Design Technology. Using CRB checked parent volunteers and visiting artists we are able to work in small groups attaining a high standard. This work culminated in our school achieving the Gold Artsmark award in 2005. To achieve this award we demonstrated our commitment to the Arts, through music, dance, drama and art.

We strongly believe that fitness effects learning. We follow a daily fitness programme at the beginning of the school day. At morning play children eat fruit only. This is provided free of charge for Foundation and Key Stage 1 children. We encourage the children to bring a water bottle to school and refill it throughout the day. This is in line with the findings from recent research that highlighted the fact that being well hydrated improves concentration and learning.

"Pupils are developing the skills they need to achieve well in the future, including the ability to work independently. Pupils awareness of healthy living is outstanding" Ofsted 2006.



Pupils throughout the school are strongly encouraged to work together and the Christmas production is an example of their teamwork across the age groups culminating in a whole school concert.

Sex education is part of the PSHE framework and some elements are covered in science. Parents are informed in advance of the start of the course and are welcome to discuss any concerns with the staff.

The Personal and social development of the pupils is further enhanced by the very successful school council.

The School Council

"The School Council is a very effective" Ofsted 2006

"The members of the committee are real ambassadors for the school, they are enthusiastic, polite and articulate" Ofsted 2006

In our Councillors own words

"The School Council helps the school to get organised and it helps raise money as we did with the bingo afternoon. We help other people to grow up to be more polite and better people. We help choose new teachers and help the staff run the school"

Hannah Runeckles, Archie Quinn - Year 2 School Councillors



Special Educational Needs

All children are special but some have identified problems requiring extra help. These children have individual educational plans based on their needs. Children who are more able are identified and also have individual educational plans.



Extra Curricular Activities

We have always offered a wide variety of activities throughout the year. They have included Touch Rugby, Cricket, Football, Hockey, Athletics, Art, Drama, German, Music, Computer Club, a book club and environmental science. We are always looking at ways of widening the pupils' experiences. Activities offered change from term to term led by a combination of qualified specialists and teachers.

"There is a good range of extra curricular activities available for pupils including a well attended ICT club" Ofsted 2006

Residential trips are offered to promote team work and independence, and these have always proved popular.



Parents and School

One of the most important factors enabling children to progress well and achieve is a good relationship between parents and school staff. We have an open door policy and encourage parents to discuss any concerns sooner rather than later. We have termly consultaion evenings, regular news letters and an annual school report.

We welcome help in school, and parents often volunteer to help in many areas of school life.

We have a very active Friends Association, involving parents, who make a valuable contribution to the school. Evidence of their involvement is seen all around the school and in the school grounds. They also coordinate many social functions throughout the year.

" The response from parents through the Questionnaire was overwhelmingly positive" Ofsted 2006

After School Club

Our extremely successful after school club runs from 3pm to 6pm Monday to Friday at a very reasonable cost. Tea is provided and the children are able to use the school grounds and facilities. Our play leader plans many enjoyable activities for the children including cooking and craft projects.

The after school club was Ofsted inspected in 2006 and parents commented that they are "very pleased with the provision" "we particularly like the family atmosphere" "my child is always happy and content".



Day to day school life

- A school uniform is required to be worn. The colours are red and navy.
- Homework is given according to the age of the children.
- The school day starts at 8.55 and finishes at 3.05.
- The children can have a hot lunch in school or school packed lunch or bring a packed lunch from home.
- All school policies are available for you to read, either in school or on our website.

We always try to work in a positive environment and encourage good behaviour from everyone in school.

"All staff know the children and take pains to ensure all are happy and well cared for. The level of respect shown by the teachers for their pupils is exceptional. Every appropriate response from the pupils is valued and sufficient time is always given for pupils to express their ideas." Ofsted 2006

The governing body is extremely supportive having skills which enhance the managerial aspects of running the school. They regularly monitor the curriculum and the budget and work with the parents, staff and children to fulfill agreed aims and objectives.



"There is a well led and effective Governing body. The school benefits from the wide range of expertise provided by the Governors." Ofsted 2006



We are very proud of our school and its achievements and would welcome the opportunity to meet you and answer any questions you may have.