



# Caythorpe Chronicle

The weekly news from Caythorpe Primary School

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2021

## Farewell to Katie Brockington

When Mrs Brockington first walked into Caythorpe Primary School in late August 2016, we were greeted by an enthusiastic and experienced teacher and Assistant Head. That cheery disposition and willingness to "give it a try" are qualities that have not diminished over the past four and a half years, in fact they have only grown and continued to help the school achieve its full potential on a daily basis.

At the time Mrs Brockington and CIT arrived at the school we were in a period of transition, affected by a wholesale change of leadership, a requirement for some "in school support" and a drive by the education authorities for remote village schools to look at joining MATs (Multi Academy Trusts). The school needed strong and effective leadership, and in Mrs Brockington's first role as a Head Teacher she soon provided exactly that. She managed to juggle learning her new role in a new school, with galvanising both the new and existing team into a cohesive and nurturing teaching unit.

Fast forward to March 2017, only six months later, and the OFSTED inspectors awarded the school a well-deserved "good" grade. Such a fantastic result could only have been achieved by the rapid implementation and the embedding of new systems and structure within the school, ensuring that the whole team joined Mrs Brockington on the journey. All this was underpinned by instilling the school's "Golden Values" into every part of the day for pupils and staff alike.

Her desire, determination and, most importantly, a passion to create an equitable environment that encourages every student to achieve their full potential, regardless of ability, sets Mrs Brockington and Caythorpe Primary School apart from other schools. During the current Lockdown we couldn't have asked to be led by a more caring and supportive leadership team that hopefully every family feels has the children's and community's best interests at heart.

Caythorpe's loss is most certainly Linchfield Primary School's gain. However, Mrs Brockington's departure creates a fantastic opportunity for her successor, Mrs Helen Hunt. Although recruited during the summer of 2016, Mrs Hunt joined the school as our new Deputy Head in January 2017 and soon worked hard to form an effective senior leadership team with Mrs Brockington. Mrs Hunt had tough competition when it came to the interview process to become our new Head Teacher, but her drive, determination and exceptional interpersonal skills make her the ideal person to lead us into the next chapter.

Mrs Brockington will always be a pivotal part of the history of Caythorpe Primary School, and as her new role will also be in a CIT school, we know she won't be a stranger, and will ensure that Mrs Hunt is well equipped to continue on our collective journey.

Please join me and my fellow Governors in wishing Mrs Brockington and Mrs Hunt the very best of luck in their respective new roles.

Simon Linforth

Chair of Caythorpe Local School Governing Body

## Thank You & Farewell

My last day as the Headteacher of Caythorpe Primary School is here but as I approach ventures new I will never forget my first Headship here at Caythorpe. I cannot put into words how much I have loved every minute of being part of Caythorpe School's journey and sharing so many special moments over the last four and a half years. Thank you to all of the children, parents, staff, governors and members of the local community for your continued support and collaboration. I will miss everyone, but especially the children who I view as an extended part of the Brockington Family.

Thank you again for entrusting me with your children and making my first headship so enjoyable and special.

I look forward to visiting Caythorpe when all of the children are back in school and hearing about the school's future successes.

Best wishes to you all for a bright and happy future.

Kind regards,

Katie Brockington

Thank You and  
Farewell



### Parent Forums

Thank you to all of the parents who joined myself, Mrs Laing and Mrs Hunt at our Parent Forums this week. It was a good opportunity to discuss any worries or concerns that people have during the National Lockdown and to share good ideas and feedback.

Caythorpe Primary School continues to have an open-door policy which is more important than ever as we all face extremely challenging times. Please remember a problem shared is a problem halved and we are all in this together. We are here to support and help you wherever we can.

### Symptoms of Coronavirus

If you have any of the main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), get a test as soon as possible. Stay at home until you get the result.

#### **Main Symptoms**

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- a **high temperature** - this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a **new, continuous cough** - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a **loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** - this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Most people with coronavirus have at least 1 of these symptoms

#### **What to do if you have symptoms**

If you have any of the main symptoms of coronavirus:

1. Get a test to check if you have coronavirus as soon as possible.
2. You and anyone you live with should stay at home and not have visitors until you get your test result - only leave your home to have a test.

Anyone in your support bubble should also stay at home if you have been in close contact with them since your symptoms started or during the 48 hours before they started.



Please ensure that if your child has been in school during the week commencing 08.02.21 that you report any positive cases of coronavirus to school during the half term break so that we can take any necessary action.

### Keep in Touch

Whilst it is half term next week and school is closed to all pupils, please don't hesitate to contact us if you want to share anything or if you have any questions or concerns:

E-mail: [enquiries@caythorpe-cit.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@caythorpe-cit.co.uk)

[Helen.Hunt@caythorpe-cit.co.uk](mailto:Helen.Hunt@caythorpe-cit.co.uk)

School Mobile: 07702 821569

**STAY SAFE & TAKE CARE**

### Children's Mental Health Week

Last week in assembly, I shared the story 'It's OK to be Different'. Following this Isla and Harriet sent me some lovely pictures about being different. Isla drew a beautiful picture of herself to celebrate her unique red hair! Harriet drew a super picture to show how she is different to her mummy and daddy. Her mummy has darker hair than her and her daddy is good at swimming but she is still learning to swim.



### Transport to School

#### **Important information regarding school transport for children starting secondary school or primary school in September 2021**

If your child is starting primary school or transferring to secondary school in September 2021 they may be eligible for school transport. If you think your child is eligible please apply for transport as soon as you have your offer of a school place. Applications can be made online at the website below or a telephone application can be made by contacting the Customer Service Centre on 01522 782020.

For more information about the home to school transport policy and online applications please go to [www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/school-college-transport](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/school-college-transport). Queries can be emailed to [schooltransportapplications@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:schooltransportapplications@lincolnshire.gov.uk).

### Remote Learning Survey

Thank you to everyone who completed our Remote Learning Survey. Your thoughts and comments are important to us and your answers help us to ensure that we are doing our best to meet the needs of all of our families.

The feedback was extremely positive overall with the majority of parents and children feeling supported by the school.

Our job is to provide an education for all pupils during the national lockdown which is as close to what they would receive in the classroom as possible. Obviously, this is extremely difficult as we all know that being in school is the best place for all of our children to learn.

If your child is struggling with the work that is being set, it is imperative that you contact your child's class teacher for support as soon as possible. Staff are available to help all pupils throughout the day and they will respond to your queries and concerns as soon as possible.

Teachers are offering a daily class meeting on Teams where they talk through the work for the day and provide a variety of activities for the children to join in with. Children can stay on their Teams meeting to ask any questions about the work for the day and staff are also offering addition Teams meetings if children need further help. We are not offering live lessons as staff are supporting children in school as well as at home and lots of families are sharing devices so the videos provide more flexibility for learning.

Please take advantage of the support that is being offered - we are here to help - all you need to do is ask.