



John Hellins Primary School Report to Annual Parish Assembly 2023

Numbers on roll

The school continues to be popular in the community, with a regular intake of 30 pupils and many more applications to attend. The school currently has 207 pupils. Most pupils who attend are from the village and some pupils also from surrounding villages.

Achievements

The staff and children at John Hellins continue to work extremely hard and the standards of academic achievement remain high. Our KS2 SATS results consistently rank us in the top 5% of all schools nationally. Our curriculum continues to be engaging and wherever possible we try to include visits and visitors and real life experiences. We continue to work with the village gardening club on our John Hellins garden; an allotment plot where all children can grow vegetables and herbs which we use in cookery later in the year. Other exciting experiences have included visits from the Arch Deacon of Northampton, a member of the Northants Buddhist and Meditation Centre and members of the Hindu and Sikh communities. Trips have taken place to the Derngate Theatre, Bletchley Park, The Space Centre, Cadburys World, Oxford Botanical Gardens and Woburn Safari Park to name just a few. We also enjoyed marking and celebrating the Jubilee with a family picnic and performances from the children. We have enjoyed welcoming parents into school for 'Come and Learn' sessions, World Book Day and our programme of themed coffee mornings.

In sport, John Hellins has entered local cross-country events and taken part in tag rugby, football, curling, netball and athletics competitions with other local schools. We continue to have our own sports coach as well as enjoying a great relationship with a range of external sports coaches, several of whom come and work with the children during their Physical Education lessons during school time, as well as running a wide range of after school clubs. The staff at John Hellins continue to work with and support other schools, both locally and across the county, and our Headteacher is the Strategic Lead of the DFE English Hub based at Roade and covering North and West Northants, Luton and Leicestershire.

This year has also seen the development of "The Atrium", a new library space that links the two main parts of the school. We have been overwhelmed by the support from the community regarding this project, particularly our neighbours who have endured the building work and the community members who fundraised for new books to fill the library.

In the summer we had a monitoring visit from Ofsted and John Hellins continues to retain its Outstanding judgment.

The school building has had some repairs this year, including new windows in the hall and the oldest part of the building, and some roof repairs.

Our school kitchen continues to consistently provide exciting, hearty and nutritious meals to our children. Visitors to the school are always impressed by this in-house catering service and the meals that they see and sample when they are at John Hellins.

The future

Things at John Hellins never stand still. We are currently working on upgrading the last of the very old windows and are planning a full refurbishment of the toilets in our Early Years classroom. Work continues on the development of our curriculum and our environment and we have a planned programme of audits in key areas to ensure continual improvement. We have

a number of exciting events in the pipeline including a whole school family event to celebrate the King's coronation as well as an Easter fun day for the children and further trips and visitors to school.

Jodie Matthews
Headteacher

Alan Davies
Chair of Governors