



HERE'S THE NEWS

OCTOBER 2017



On Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 13th September we were inspected by Ofsted. As you are all already aware the inspection team awarded us **OUTSTANDING** in all areas. We are delighted to be the **FIRST** school in County Durham to convert from our previous Ofsted Judgement of 'Good' May 2013 to 'Outstanding' September 2017 under Ofsted's new more rigorous framework. Five inspectors visited school during a two-day inspection. Many thanks to parents, carers and children who share our commitment to very high expectations and have supported us throughout our journey to **OUTSTANDING**.

Here are a few quotes from our report-

The **highly effective teams of leaders and governors** have ensured that Sugar Hill has gone from **strength to strength** since the previous inspection.

The **attainment and progress of pupils**, from early years to the end of key stage 2, have **improved significantly** and are now well **above those found nationally**.

Staff have risen successfully to meet the **high expectations** leaders have of them. Together with the **outstanding teaching**, the **inviting curriculum** and **wide ranging extra-curricular activities** ensure that pupils **thrive and achieve highly** as they move through the school.

Teachers and teaching assistants work as a dynamic and enthusiastic team. They know the pupils well.

Very strong relationships between staff and pupils ensure that pupils enjoy school, are safe, attend regularly and are well supported when there are concerns.

Governors have an insightful understanding of the school's strengths and weaknesses. They hold leaders to account robustly for the impact of their work.

Pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is strong. It contributes to the **pupils' exemplary behaviour** and to the care and support pupils afford one another in and out of class. **Pupils' attitudes to learning are superb** and the **pride they take in their work is praiseworthy**.

From the moment they enter school, high expectations and well-established routines ensure that children from the earliest ages settle in quickly. Children in Early Years make excellent progress and now leave Reception very well prepared for Key Stage 1.

Leaders are resolute in identifying anything that is not as good as it should be and get onto improving matters straight away.

The 2016 gaps in the progress and attendance of pupils who have special educational needs and/or disabilities compared with their peers have been obliterated. This year, their attendance and rates of progress by the end of Key Stage 2 are much stronger and often above those of their peers nationally.

Changes in the use of pupil premium funding for disadvantaged pupils have accelerated their progress successfully. Many are outstripping their peers in the progress they make by the end of key stage 2.

SNAG (School Nutrition Action Group) News



Our SNAG pupils will be busy this term monitoring packed lunches and school dinners. This group of pupils attend meetings with our school cook Julie and provide Pupil Voice about school lunches. Special meals for Halloween and Bonfire night were discussed at our last SNAG meeting. These meetings are really making a difference. Well done SNAG members!

Community Showcase November 2nd 2017



Please support our Community Showcase Event. This is the second year running for this event. Pop into school at 2:30pm to meet our School Nurse Kate Devine, Health Visitor Christine Fallows, Rabindra Singh One Point Family Worker and representatives from other agencies will be attending.

Mini-Police Updates



Our Mini-Police are continuing to do a fantastic job. They report for duty on a rota basis at school. Mrs Legge is busy planning community events and more information will be sent to Mini Police parent/carers. We are hoping our Mini Police will be invited to participate in the Remembrance Sunday Parade in Newton Aycliffe. Parents/carers need to attend this event with their Mini-Police Officer. It is a voluntary event and limited to 20 Mini-Police.



Young Carers Charter



Just a reminder that we are pledged at Sugar Hill to the Young Carers Charter.

A Young Carer is someone between the ages of 5-18 years who has caring responsibilities for a family member at home who has:

- A serious or long term illness
- A physical disability
- A mental health problem
- A drug or alcohol dependency
- A learning disability

Young Carers' may do things like:

Household chores
Preparing or cooking food
Personal care
Giving medication
Communicating on behalf of someone else
Ensuring someone's safety
Providing emotional support

If your child is a YOUNG CARER please speak with Mrs Legge

or Mrs Atkinson-Jones in confidence.

We have a YOUNG CARERS POLICY in school and we can provide additional support for your child.

SENDAG (Special Educational Needs and Disability Action Group) Updates



The next meeting of SENDAG will be Friday 24th November at 2:30pm. Please inform Mrs Legge if you will be attending or require more information. Refreshments will be available. This meeting will be very informal and an opportunity for parents/carers to meet other parents/carers who have children with special educational needs.

SMSC (Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural) Working Party Updates

Year 4 children are going to be involved in an exciting project called 'Young Leaders'. More information to follow.

Sports News from Mr Foxton will be following in the November Edition.

Attendance News



A huge thank you to all parents and carers who support our school Attendance Policy.

Safeguarding at Sugar Hill Primary School



Just a reminder that Safeguarding children at Sugar Hill Primary School is a shared responsibility. All visitors to our school receive and sign for a Safeguarding Leaflet explaining Safeguarding Procedures at Sugar Hill. If you have any concerns about a child please contact a member of our Safeguarding Team at school without delay.

Designated Safeguarding Staff

Mrs P O'Rourke (Head Teacher), Mrs K Legge (Deputy Head Teacher/Safeguarding Lead), Mrs Rowntree and Mrs McCormack (Assistant Heads), Mrs Atkinson-Jones (Social Learning Mentor)

Many thanks for your continued support.

Should you have any concerns please do not delay in contacting us to discuss.

Parent/Carer questionnaires will be sent home after the half term holiday to capture your views and responses will be analysed with results published on our school website.

Coming next...



1. Early Years Room on the Broom Event
2. Early Years Stay and Play Events
3. Mini Police updates
4. SMSC updates
5. Health News from School Nurse Team
6. Robinwood
7. Sports News
8. Clubs and Events
9. Christmas Dates for your diary