

## Henley School Report to Parish Council

There have been a number of quite major changes taking place at the school this year.

We have been fortunate enough to obtain some grant funding and support from a company called VERTAS to completely refurbish the outside play/learning area for Class 1 pupils. It opened officially just a few weeks ago. The children are delighted and it is in constant use.

The governors at the school have made the decision, in consultation with staff and parents, to join a Multi Academy Trust, known as Consortium MAT. This process is under way currently and the school hopes to convert by 1<sup>st</sup> July 2017. In terms of learning, there will be very few changes for pupils or their parents. The biggest difference will be that the school will no longer be under Local Authority control. This enables the school to seek inspiration, direction and support from partner schools in the MAT and beyond.

We believe that this move will help to secure the future of the school within the local community as budgets become ever tighter and resources become ever more scarce. The future for small schools is very uncertain for a range of reasons, mostly to do with government funding issues.

Pupils at school continue to learn in a creative, outward looking environment and outcomes continue to be very high. We are very proud of all that pupils learn at Henley School. They learn how to be well-mannered and considerate people, they learn about caring for their environment, they learn about the history of the community in which they learn and they learn how to ask questions and seek answers. All of these things not measured by the government or OFSTED but fundamental to the skills needed to be a fully functioning citizen.

We continue to welcome members of the community to school. We have a range of volunteers who help at school. We are also intending to run our very successful Afternoon Tea again this summer term. We are hoping to develop ever closer links with Henley pre-School to ensure good transitions for pupils into the more formal learning of school.