

Diocese of Manchester
Parish of St John the Evangelist
Farnworth & Kearsley
Annual Report for 2022



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Dear Friends,

This has been a truly inspiring year. In this year alone we have seen volunteers spring forward from every direction. You know who you are, as do I!

I'd like to give a particular mention though to Deborah Bithill, a truly gifted ALM who has now been selected for Ordained Ministry and enjoying placement and training.

Also, I must mention Steph Gran, an amazing leader in Evangelism, and ALM herself and founder of our Church plant the Café Church at St Peters boasting 38 in its congregation most recently. Steph also looks after Toddler group, our growing Youth group and serves on our Second Sunday team at St Johns. In all of this she has two fantastic partners in Michelle and Sharon. Steph too is now heading to selection for Ordained local ministry.

And then there is Liz Cook, stepping up for Reader ministry, currently an organist at St Johns, but also an active member of the Second Sunday team and other Children's events.

And I must mention our Assistant Minister Revd Tony Cowell who alongside Barry and the team have pioneered St Stephens to a point it is now growing and paying Parish share 100%. Amazing!

Thank you especially to Peter and to Alan and to Allison Mole and Alison Bradbury and all who serve so well for the sake of others. Peter recently did a talk at the Mission partnership lent course, it was fantastic!

Then we have Wardens, a host of volunteers, some new, some graciously returning to serve. It has been a truly inspiring year.

In all of this, discipleship at its finest, we truly have something to build on and to celebrate by the grace of God!

Challenges remain, not least that of paying Parish share, but with a team like this, there is nothing we cannot do.

With every Blessing,

Fr Stephen

PCC Secretary's Report

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Rector, Father Stephen Nolan, the Church Wardens, Dr Steven Mann and Mrs Judith Birchall, Deputy Warden, Mr Paul Tonge, Treasurer Mrs Sandra Croston and members of the PCC for their support throughout the year. A special thank you must go to Dr Steven Mann and Mrs Sandra Croston, who are stepping down from their roles as Church Warden and Treasurer after many years of loyal service.

The PCC met on 7 occasions, during the period January to December 2022.

MARCH 2022

MISSION ACTION PLAN

At the first meeting of 2022, held on 17th March, discussion ensued regarding the Parish Re-organisation and members were informed that our Mission Action Plan would be updated following the appointment of the joint Mission Team Leader.

THE LENT COURSE was to be held at the Parish of St Mathew, Little Lever and would focus on the subject of prayer. The incumbents from our Mission Community would be invited to contribute each week to our exploration of different aspects of prayer.

It was announced a Year 6 Leavers Celebration Service would be held at St John's Church at 10.00am on Wednesday 29th June, for the 5 Church of England Primary Schools in the Benefice. Members agreed to buy Book Marks for the Year 6 Leavers.

Members were informed 'This is Your Move' books for Year 6 Leavers at our 3 Parish Church Primary Schools- All Saints, St John's and St Peter's had been purchased.



All Saints School



St John's School



St Peter's School

YOUTH GROUP - Members were informed that the new Youth Group now had a name, **F³ (F cubed) Fun, Faith and Friendship**. A member of the Children Changing Places Team, at the Diocese, was in the process of designing a logo for them. They had 10 regular members and were hoping to expand after Easter, by inviting Year 5 pupils to join them.

WORSHIP - It was announced:-

REVD TONY COWELL'S LICENSENSING TO THE BENEFICE was to take place at 7.00pm Tuesday 26th April 2022 at St Stephen's Church, Kearsley Moor.

CONFIRMATION was to take place at St John's Church during Communion at 11.00am on Sunday 26th June 2022.

CORONAVIRUS – Holy Communion – No Wine

Members were asked if they would be comfortable receiving wine from the communal cup. The consensus was to wait a couple of weeks and ask the congregation whether they would be comfortable receiving wine.

MAY 2022

Father Stephen chaired the Annual Parish Church Meeting, Annual Parochial Church Meeting and the First Meeting of the newly elected PCC, on Thursday 12th May 2022. Dr Steven Mann and Mrs Judith Birchall were nominated as Church Wardens. Mr Paul Tonge was nominated as Deputy Warden. The Parish Accounts for 2021 were approved and thanks expressed to the Treasurer Mrs Sandra Croston.

The Electoral Roll Officer, Kim McIntyre, reported that the Electoral Roll closed at 104.

At the first meeting of the newly elected PCC the following officers were elected:-

- **CHAIR:-** Father Stephen Nolan
- **VICE CHAIR:-** Stephanie Buckley
- **TREASURER:-** Sandra Croston
- **SECRETARY:-** Dorothy McGlynn
- **ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER:-** Kim McIntyre
- **DEANERY SYNOD REPRESENTATIVES:-** Alison Mole & Jacqueline Powell

FINANCE

PARISH SHARE Members were informed that £10,000 had been paid towards our parish share, in two instalments of £5,000.

MISSION ACTION PLAN

PASTORAL TEAM – At the meeting we discussed setting up a pastoral team to visit parishioners who were housebound and could no longer attend church.

CONCERT FOR SANDRA On Saturday 21st May, a concert was held in church in memory of Sandra Martin, a much-loved Teaching Assistant at All Saints school for over 20 years, who died in May 2020. The school choir sang along to a Beatles medley, as well as singing Sandra's favourite 'The Power in Me'.

ST JOHN'S TODDLER TIME

Our toddler group continues to grow week on week with an average of 20 children attending. **On Monday 23rd May, a record number of 33 children and their families attended the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations.** At the end of the session everyone sat down together on blankets and enjoyed a picnic style snack of scones with jam and cream before singing a song called 'Our Queen'.



WORSHIP – CORONAVIRUS – Holy Communion - Wine

It was agreed that from Sunday 15th May, wine would be distributed by a licensed person, assisting the clergy. This would be given on the choir vestry side to enable the flow of those wishing to take the Sacrament. Those not wishing to take wine would return to their pew in the opposite direction. Any wine and wafers left over had to be buried. The Lay Assistant would be required to bury the wine and wafers, which were left, in the churchyard and arrange a volunteer Lay Assistant for the following week.

JUNE 2022

MISSION ACTION PLAN

TEAM SERVICES were reintroduced. It was announced the first would be at 11.00am Sunday 7th August at St Stephen's, Kearsley Moor, celebrating the 150th Anniversary of the church.

CONFIRMATION ON SUNDAY 26TH JUNE DURING THE COMMUNION SERVICE – had not taken place at the service due to Bishop Mark contracting Covid. A new date was to be arranged by Bishop Mark Ashcroft.

ALL AGE SERVICES were reported to be going well with usually over 100 people in attendance.

THE BENEFICE YEAR 6 CELEBRATION WORSHIP took place on 29th June, when over 180 Year 6 pupils from 5 Church of England primary schools in Farnworth, Kearsley and Stoneclough (All Saints, St John's, St Peter's, St Saviour's and St Stephen's) had attended. The service was led in collaboration with the Area Dean, Revd Simon Cook, Fr Stephen Nolan, Children Changing Places team, ALM's Steph Buckley and Deborah Bithell and St James's CE High School. During the service everyone was given a bookmark, which had the picture of a lion and the verse, '**Be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go**'. Joshua 1 – 9.



The Lion is made up of year 6 student's names

JULY 2022

MISSION ACTION PLAN

In July we discussed the draft Single Mission Action Plan for the Benefice and the Mission Action Plan for St John's Parish, which had been circulated to members prior to the meeting.

CAFÉ CHURCH AT ST PETER'S – On Saturday 9th July, ALM, Steph Buckley launched the very first Café Church at St Peter's CE Primary School, which 38 people attended. It was an informal café style setting with refreshments and crafts available on the table. The first 30 minutes was time to sit and chat, colour and do crafts around the tables with refreshments, **talking about the story of The Good Samaritan. Part of the talk was an activity based on Luke 10 – 27, 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind. And love your neighbour as yourself',** where everyone thought about how they could show love to others by writing ideas on plasters and sticking them onto a heart shape.



Some of the children were involved in reading prayers, before there was more time to talk in groups about how we should love our neighbour and time to do another activity and create a plaster with the Bible verse on to take home. The event finished by singing a song and saying a prayer of blessing together. Further Café Church sessions in St Peter's Studio were arranged for Saturday 17th September and Saturday 15th October.

NEW BROWNIE FLAG

At the All Age Service on Sunday 10th July a new Brownie Flag was dedicated which had been gifted in Memory of Margaret Davies. Her mother, Marion Lever (nee Critchley) had been one of the first Brownie Leaders at St John's when the pack opened in 1928.

SET OF NEW CHURCH BELL ROPES



(Photographs courtesy of the late Victor Gethin)

At the meeting on the 14th July 2022 the secretary reported that the new set of bell ropes, gifted by Mrs Cynthia Gethin in October 2019 in memory of her late husband Mr Victor Gethin, which had been in storage due to the Coronavirus Pandemic Restrictions, were finally fitted on Wednesday 13th July, almost 3 years later. They were fitted by James Andrews, Andrew Ingham and Peter Randell, members of the Lancashire Association of Change Ringers.

It was agreed that monthly Peals, rung by members of the Lancashire Association of Change Ringers, would re-start in October 2022 and be rung at the earlier time of 12 noon, on Fridays.

SEPTEMBER 2022

MISSION ACTION PLAN

Fr Stephen informed members that we are already doing a lot Mission Action Plan activities.

SECOND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH ALL AGE WORD SERVICE

At the All Age Service on Sunday 11th September we commemorated the end of an era and new beginnings following the death of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II on the 8th September and the accession to the throne of King Charles III.



As a mark of respect the Brownie Leaders carried the Union Flag followed by the Brownies very proudly carrying their brand new flag.

CHRISTMAS EXPERIENCE

The Christmas Experience would now take place over 2 days, Wednesday 23rd and Thursday 24th November, instead of 3 days, due to the re-scheduled Confirmation Service on 22nd November.

FINANCE

PARISH SHARE – Fr Stephen informed members that we were in the first year of a 3 year Parish Share Plan.

CREDIT CARD READER – Members agreed to purchase a Credit Card Reader, which does not require Wi-Fi, essentially for use at Baptisms.

BANNERS FOR NOTICE BOARDS – It was agreed to buy 2 Banners. One for across the Notice Board giving information about all the things that we do. The second Banner was a stand up one stating '**Please Give Generously**'.

BUILDING & GRAVEYARD

NEW HYMN BOARDS TO CELEBRATE 196th CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

Two new Hymn Boards were gifted to celebrate the 196th Anniversary of the church on 9th September 2022.

CHURCH YARD WALL DAMAGED BY POPLAR TREE IN NEIGHBOUR'S GARDEN



Members were informed that no further progress had been made with regard to the re-building of the church wall because we did not have sufficient money to pay for it.

OCTOBER 2022

MISSION ACTION PLAN

St John's Mission Action Plan submitted to the Arch Deacon.

BIBLE READING CLUB

Alison Mole, Authorised Lay Minister for Worship, commented that whilst there were lots of new initiatives and events for young people taking place at St John's, there was nothing for older members of the church. She suggested that a monthly Bible Club was introduced, where discussion could ensue on the Sunday Morning Bible readings. It was unanimously agreed that a Bible Club is re-introduced. The first meeting was arranged:-

Bible Club 7.00pm Thursday 10th November 2022 at St John's Church.

FINANCE

The treasurer had prepared the accounts to the end of September 2022. The total income for the period was £39,511.37 and the expenditure was £40,592.83 **a shortfall of £1,081.46.**

PARISH SHARE – Quota paid £20,000. Fr Stephen told members that he would like to pay a further £10,000 later in the financial year.

BUILDING & GRAVEYARD

QUINQUENNIAL – Fr Stephen reported that the Quinquennial Inspection had been booked for Friday 9th December 2022. He informed members that there were a number of Safety Test/Reports that were required prior to the inspection.

SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding Training was to be arranged for the Benefice.

WORSHIP

BISHOPS ADVISORY PANEL – Fr Stephen told members that Steph Buckley was starting the BAP online course on Wednesday 9th November.

NOVEMBER 2022

MISSION ACTION PLAN

TEAM SERVICES

Fr Stephen informed members at the November meeting that the Team Services were going well.



The Team Service at St John's Church on Sunday 30th October, led jointly by Fr Stephen and ALM, Deborah Bithell, was attended by 119 people. (75 adults and 44 children)

BIBLE READING CLUB

The newly formed Bible Reading Club, led by ALM, Alison Mole, had met for the first time on Thursday 10th November and had been well attended. The next meeting had been arranged for Thursday 15th December.

WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES

Fr Stephen reported that whole school assemblies were going well at All Saints, St John's and St Peter's Primary Schools.

INCLUSIVE WORSHIP – Members agreed to the purchase of Fidget Toys for those members of the congregation with ADHD.

CONFIRMATION

On Tuesday 22nd November, the Rt. Revd Mark Ashcroft, Bishop of Bolton returned to St John's Church to conduct an evening confirmation. The service had originally been scheduled for Sunday 26th June. However, Bishop Mark contracted Covid virus and was unable to attend. Eleven of the original twelve families were able to attend the evening service, with over 50 members from all four churches in attendance. The service was supported by Clergy, Wardens and Choristers from all three parishes in the Benefice, making it a truly family affair.

EXPERIENCE CHRISTMAS

On the 23rd and 24th November St John's reached out to 7 local primary schools, (All Saints CE Primary, St John's CE Primary, St Peter's CE Primary, St Gregory's RC Primary, Kearsley West Primary, Queensbridge Primary and The Ferns Academy) to provide 'Experience Christmas' to Year 3 (7/8 year olds). Over the two days 9 classes, around 270 children attended. They were welcomed and then visited five areas where they learned about the Advent Wreath, Mary's visit from an angel, the journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem, the good news the shepherds received and finally, the gifts of the Magi. They then all sat around the manger and gave their gifts to baby Jesus. Each class was given a 'Fair Trade' Advent Calendar and a Christmas Story book to take back to school.

ST JOHN'S YOUTH GROUP – F³ (F Cubed)

The Youth group which was officially launched on 10th November 2021, by Steph Buckley, Sharon Goodwin, Michelle Winter and the Children Changing Places Project members Rachel Sutcliffe and Alison Adium, is now in double figures. It has been split into two separate groups, which meet in church fortnightly on Wednesdays.

CHRISTMAS FAIR

We held our Christmas Fair on Saturday 26th November and with superb teamwork raised an amazing £1,115.

CAROL SERVICE



Our year culminated with our spectacular evening Carol Service, on Sunday 11th December, in which our Toddler Group, Brownies, Youth Group and School Choirs all participated. Despite the cold evening, 305 adults and children attended. Around 50 of the congregation had to be relocated to the balcony. It was one of the largest congregations at a Carol Services I have ever seen at St John's Church.

Dorothy McGlynn

PCC Secretary

Treasurers Report 2022

As you can all imagine with the current cost-of-living crisis we are all experiencing with everything from food, gas and electric and fuel for our cars our Church is no different. We all know times are hard and this reflects our accounts for 2022.

Our Gas and Electric alone has increased by over £5,000 since 2021 and totals over £16,500 for the year which is our biggest expenditure.

Our regular giving was down by again just under £1000, this is the 2nd consecutive year that we are down by roughly the same amount and a trend that we need to address but how we do this in the current climate is something we need to think about. Our loose money on the collection plate tracked pretty much the same as 2021. Donations which are a huge help for the church finances are down by almost £2000 so you can all see which way the trend is going unfortunately. Funerals are up on last year by £3,500 which helps, Weddings haven't totalled £1,000, maybe we are still feeling the aftermath of the pandemic so hopefully we can see a change in 2023.

On overall expenditure for 2022 we spent almost £4,500 more than the previous year but this is no surprise due to the current climate.

To close, as a Church we are struggling just the same as everyone else is and we need to think how we can change this for the future of our Church, all idea's would be welcome.

Sandra Croston – Treasurer

Planned Giving and Gift Aid Report

In 2022 there were 33 contributors (giving either via an envelope or through a bank standing order) down from 40 in 2021.

26 members had signed up to the Gift Aid Scheme, and the amount of tax reclaimed on their donations, with the addition of those who had signed One-Off Donation envelopes, amounted to £5,868 in 2022 which is down by £210 compared with 2021.

Due to HMRC's Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme (or GASDS for short) which was introduced in April 2013, we are now able to claim 'top-up' payments on amounts of up to £8,000 on none Gift Aided cash donations of £30 or less. The income from this amounted to £1,621.78.

Thank you to all who contribute through Planned Giving and the Gift Aid Scheme.

Tony Hemming

Churchwarden's Report

All covid restrictions have now been removed, and all regular church and fundraising activities have returned to normal. Those wishing to take communion are invited to take the wafer and choose whether to take the common cup wine or not.

Last year the service start time was changed from 10 am until 11 am. This has continued with no significant change in attendance numbers.

The Archdeacon's Visitation was held at Stand Parish Church. Judith and Steve represented St. John's and were installed as Wardens for 2022-2023. Shaun Croston and Paul Tongue agreed to be Deputy Wardens. The 2nd Sunday family service is doing well, often attracting over 100 attendees.

The Tuesday gang is back, they are invigorated with new members and are working harder than ever. They have cleared all the brambles from the new graveyard, making available land for at least another 50 plots. The church wardens and the deputy wardens would like to thank the Tuesday gang for all their hard work maintaining our church and churchyard.

We have had our quinquennial inspection and are awaiting the final report.

The new bell ropes have been fitted.

We have had problems with the clock and have called on the services of a local man, Simon, to help us. Simon also looks after the clock at Stand Church.

We had problems with water coming into the kitchen area from the roof. We had to employ a roofer to clear leaves and mortar from the roof drainage system. Further work is needed on the roof, which we may tie in with the rebuilding of the dismantled wall.

Church Wardens and Deputy Wardens

Authorised Lay Ministry

The family service on the second Sunday of each Month has continued to thrive and grow though out the year.

Myself, Steph and Deborah have received great feedback from the congregation each month saying how much they enjoy coming.

We have tried new worship songs with or without actions. We have encouraged the participation of the congregation.

In the 2023 we aim to build on our strengths and encourage others to take on ALM training as for both of us it has been a very worthwhile experience.

I am very much encouraged by the support I receive from all at church and also the good attendance from my Brownies.

Thank you all for your support

Alison Mole

Electoral Roll

The electoral roll started last year at 104 members. Happily, I can report an increase in the roll again for this year. Even after the loss of some of our older congregation and people moving away the roll stands at 111. Which is a nice report to write.

I can only hope that our numbers will increase again, then we might get back to pre-Covid levels in the 140's!

Kim McIntyre

Child Protection Report 2022

This report thankfully will be short and sweet.

I am happy to report that there have been no issues again in 2022, Sunday School has yet to start back and I haven't heard that it will be coming back but if it does then please see me to get your DBS sorted as currently I think we only have 2 valid certificates.

We will always continue to offer our children a safe and caring environment to come and learn and play, and I would like to thank all in advance who want to continue working with children for their continuing work mentoring, teaching and protecting our parish's young minds.

Please come and see me if you have any interest in working with our parish's children and I will talk you through our process.

God bless

Shaun Croston (Child Protection Officer)

Church Website / Social Media Report

We are seeing small but consistent increasers in Facebook and Twitter followers.

Facebook followers have slightly increased from 424 to 434. Twitter followers have shown a small increase up from 277 to 282.

The more we use these sites, the bigger they will grow and the more useful they will become.

Thank you to all that have contributed to the website, please keep up the good work.

Steve Mann

3rd Farnworth St John's Brownies

2022 was a busy year for St John's Brownies. We embraced the new Girlguiding Programme and earned lots of Badges. Logan Smith achieved her Gold Award and Alice Berry, Evie Martin, Lyla Stott, Poppy Lucas, Ruby O Donaghue and Atlanta Condron gained their Silver Awards.

On February 22nd 2022 at 2022 hrs we joined in a virtual Renewing of our Promise with other members of Lancashire Border County.



In addition to the planned programme we enjoyed making Mothers Day cards and presents, Easter Crafts and Fathers Day gifts .

We had a very informative evening when we invited parents to talk about their Jobs and the girls interviewed them. We also learned about inspirational Women for International Womens Day.

Dads, Grandads or Brothers joined us in a meeting when we made robots and owls from wood, screws and other oddments lurking at the bottom of a tool box when we learned how to use tools correctly.



We celebrated the Queens Platinum Jubilee by doing a Jubilee Challenge and having a party. We made and sent a card to Her Majesty the Queen and were thrilled to receive a reply. Ten girls and three leaders attended the County Platinum Jubilee Sleepover at Sacred Heart School Westhoughton and had a fabulous time doing activities and lighting a beacon for the Queen.

We received a donation in memory of Margaret Davies and purchased a new Brownie Flag.

Many girls achieved their Grow Your Own Badge, learned how to pack for camp, pitch a tent, light a fire on Snowy's Allotment and cooked S'mores. We made a Community Garden on Cemetery Road for walkers to enjoy.

The Brownies learned about, emotions, feelings and mindfulness. We invited Parents along to a meeting where we explain the Programme to them and they joined in the Halloween activities.

St John's Ambulance visited us to give us instruction on First Aid and all the girls gained their First Aid Stage2 and Stage3.



We also had a visit from Dancing Feet; we were taught a dance and achieved our Dance Badge.

We enhanced our knowledge of Local History and spent a very interesting evening at Bolton Town Hall in the Mayors Parlour with the Mayor celebrating Parliament Week.



In November I was surprised to be awarded a Lancashire Border County Thanks Badge for my part in getting St Johns Brownies up and running again after the pandemic. The girls painted positive poppy pebbles of Remembrance for the church Remembrance Service and laid a Poppy Wreath.

It was with great sadness we said goodbye to our Patron, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth and renewed our Promise to The King.

The Brownies and their families regularly attend the monthly All Age Service in St John's Church and take an active role in it. We sang at the Carol Service in December. The Brownies supported the Church Christmas Fair by holding a Bottle Stall and Childrens Christmas Tree Tombola. The year ended with a Christmas Party, a visit from Santa and a trip to Dick Whittington Pantomime performed by Stagedoor Productions.

I would like to thank the Leaders and Parents for their continued support and their enthusiasm.

Susan Stevens
Brownie Leader

All Saints' CE Primary School

Head teachers Report for the Parish



This is my 10th annual report from All Saints. Every year, when I reflect in order to write this, I'm amazed at how much has happened. Schools are such busy places that it's easy to lose sight of the big progress because we get lost in the daily minutia. So the opportunity to really think about our year in review is a joyful task. The team at All Saints have seen lots of change this year, but continue to be strengthened through Christ, through each other and through our community and Governor support.



Enrichment

We continue to offer our children a wide range of experiences, both within lessons and in addition to our school day. Opening eyes and minds to the range of opportunities that are out there is central to our ethos of being the best that we can be. All children have a talent, part of what we do is to help them find it.



Platinum Jubilee



Trip to Smithills Farm



A new sport!



Enjoying God's world

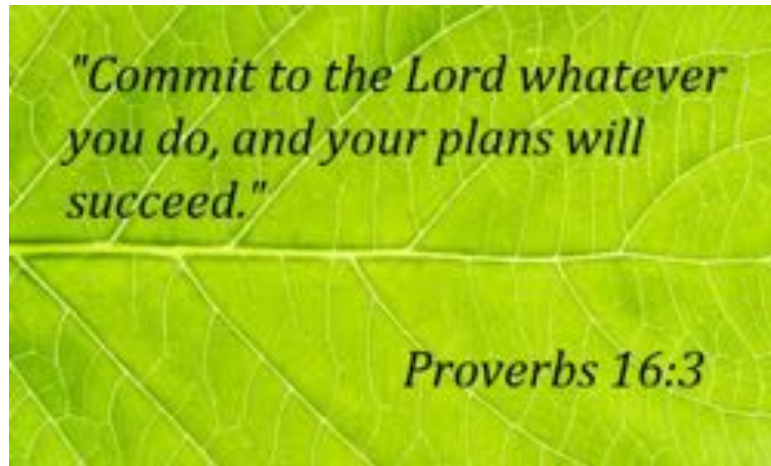
Colaboration

We have continued to work closely with our other Farnworth schools. Our Headteachers meet regularly to share information, but we also have a Deputy Head's network who are working on developing our curriculum even further, and an Early Years network where our Nursery and Reception staff can share good practise. I continued to support Queensbridge this year, and have been proud to work with their new Headteacher, Mrs Chapman. Our Assistant Head, Mrs Owens, has now been appointed as their Deputy Head. Their Chair of Governors, Mrs Burrows, wrote to us to say that "the past two years remind me of the poem "Footprints in the sand". When there was only one set of footprints, I feel that was when All Saints stepped in to carry us through our difficult time."

We've also continued to benefit from the passionate and committed team at church. Our children always love attending the 'Experience' events, and we also had a great time at Christingle this year. Father

Stephen's assemblies are a highlight of the week in school. We've had wiggle worship delivered in school and our staff are being trained in this. Thank you to all of the congregation who give up their time for us.

Achievements



*"Commit to the Lord whatever
you do, and your plans will
succeed."*

Proverbs 16:3

We know that our school continues to improve, and this year our exam results demonstrated this. Our Maths results in Y6 were above the national average, as were our phonics results in Y1 and our times tables in Y4. We continue to work closely with our families to ensure that our children achieve their potential. We know that reading with your child and talking to them from a young age makes a huge difference to their life chances.

However, we don't only judge achievements in academic terms. Attendance at our school events such as assemblies and theme days has increased enormously. Our school is full, with children on the waiting list. We have worked hard for a number of years to become a school which is truly at the heart of our community, and are proud that this work is paying off. We look forward to growing even more over the next year.

Katie Hague
Headteacher



St John's CE Primary School Head teacher's Report for the Parish (January 2022 - December 2022)



This year's report follows a really successful year at ST John's CE Kearsley. The school had a full Section 5 Inspection in June 2022 and was judged to be 'GOOD' in all areas. As Head teacher of St John's feel exceptionally proud of all the children, parents and staff who work tirelessly to ensure St John's goes from strength to strength living out our motto!

'Striving for Excellence - Trusting in God!'

Spring term 2022

During the Spring term school was able to resume worship in the hall for separate Key Stages with Junior worship introduced on a Monday and Infants introduced on a Tuesday by the Head teacher. Father Stephen continued coming into school on the Thursday morning to deliver worship to one year group at a time. So in the Spring term all classes had at least one a visit from Father Stephen which the children loved and looked forward to. The children so missed being able to get into church on a Thursday but we felt this was the best way forward at the time for the safety of all concerned.



The Infant classes had a visit from the Wiggle Worship Team. Unfortunately we were unable to involve the parents as we would have wanted to at this time however our aim was to get parents back in for the Summer term visit.



Experience Easter at St John's Church was unfortunately not able to be staffed this year. This was a great disappointment for the children and staff alike as it forms such an integral part of our curriculum and the children enjoy these experiences so much.

School managed to ensure we held an Infant and Junior Easter Service at St John's as normal with all classes taking an active role in retelling a portion of the Easter Story. This was supposed to be held in church but was held in the junior hall instead and was very well attended by families. The Infant service had to be cancelled due to a surge in Covid cases in EYFS and KS1 - it was filmed and was uploaded to the school's FB page and Twitter. This was very disappointing especially after the school had worked so hard all throughout the pandemic to keep Covid-19 out of school. However this decision meant we kept as many families as safe as we could as they broke up for their Easter holiday.

School was still able to hold its annual Easter Egg Decorating competition - the Infants completed their colouring competition and the Juniors decorated a hard-boiled egg - with each year group taking a different theme based on 'Words'. Mrs Quigley the Acting Chair judged the competition and prizes were given for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places. This is always a fabulous way to end the Spring term and Mrs Quigley had a very difficult job picking just 3 winners, per class, from the raft of amazing entries!

This year St John's children were lucky enough to all receive an Easter egg as a kind donation from Taurus Fitted Bedrooms - which was a lovely gesture.



Summer term 2022

During the Summer term we returned to weekly worship at St John's Church which was lovely as parents have started to join us too. Every Thursday is our family worship and the numbers grew as people were keen to get back to worshipping with us.

We also started to hold Celebration Worship again on Friday afternoons but we decided as the children weren't used to getting together on mass we would leave it a while until we asked parents to join us again. Our aim was to reinstate parents coming back into worship in the Autumn term.

The Changing Places Team worked with our Y6 children again on a series of Y6 Transition sessions which were really well received, called 'The Emoji Project' - it consisted of three workshops to build self-esteem, encourage positive wellbeing and promote good mental health. Children discovered they can be HOPEFUL, BRAVE and KIND and create their own emoji survival kit. Linking to Bible stories and verses that will inspire everyone and reminds our children of their time in a faith school as sadly some of our children do not carry on their journey in faith in their secondary school life.



Our Y1 children visited St John's for a mock Baptism, led by Father Stephen, to learn all about christening services.



Our Year 6 children attended the annual Leavers Service at Manchester Cathedral in June which is always a lovely experience as all of the church primary school get together in one place to celebrate the children's spiritual journey across primary school and into secondary school.



Alongside this our Y6 children also held their own 'Leaving Service' at St John's Church which was well attended by parents where they shared some of their abiding memories of their time at St John's. All children were presented with a copy of the Bible by school and with a copy of 'Moving On' from the PCC to support them as the move to high school.

This Year our Y6 children also joined the rest of Farnworth and Kearsley leavers at a special service at St John's church. It was lovely to see all of the Y6 children from around Farnworth and Kearsley congregating in one place to celebrate their time in a faith school.

Autumn term 2022

Our new Reception children were welcomed into the family of St John's in their very own Service at church on 29th September. This was very well attended and all children received a wooden cross with their name on it as a memento. They were accompanied by their Y6 Buddy as part of our 'Seeds and Gardeners' Student Leadership Group.



Celebration Worship returned to normal on Friday afternoons and we were regularly joined by up to 15 or so parents which again is lovely to see. Celebrating academic success alongside behaviours and attitudes that fit the school values of St John's.



We were blessed to have The Children Changing Places Team, Alison Adlum, working alongside one of our Teaching Assistant, Ms Winter, with our Ethos Team as was. They rebranded and were now known as 'Faithful Friends' and have focused on Prayer over the Autumn term. Culminating in creation of a school prayer which is used in all school. The Faithful Friends introduced the prayer to the whole school in a special worship led by them.



Year 2 welcomed the Gideon's in to learn more about the Bible and they left every child a bible to take home as a memento of their visit.



Alison Adlum also led a 'Run the Race' session with our Y6 children on 17th October. WE have relished the time we have had with her and have seen so many of our children benefit from her input.

We also resumed our Class Worship with Dolphins, Seals and Manta Rays all holding a worship in the Autumn term. Parents of each class were invited and these are usually well attended.

We also were able to hold our annual Harvest Services on 6th October for both the infants and juniors which were well attended and all food donations went to Farnworth Foodbank - the generosity of our families under difficult circumstance always amazed me.

Thankfully due to the hard work of the PCC and St John's congregation the children in Year 3 were still able to take part in Experience Christmas over at St John's - this was wonderful and very much appreciated by staff and the children.

Our children all had the opportunity to make Christingles in school. Year 2 had a visit from Steph Buckley who held a workshop for the Seahorses all about the symbolism of the Christingle. This culminated in Infant and Junior services at St John's Church on Thurs 1st December - again this was really well attended by families.



Our annual Tree Dressing, on 5th December, was a highlight of the Autumn term with parents being welcomed in to join the children as they decorated our beautiful Christmas Tree and celebrated Advent with songs and poems.



This year's Infant Nativity was 'The Inn Keeper's Breakfast' which was really well attended being the first in person 'Nativity' the school has been able to perform in over 2 years.

The term ended with a fabulous Junior Carol Service held at St John's Church retelling the story of the nativity through bible reading, prayer and hymns. It was wonderful to be able to get back to normal with these wonderful seasonal events.

Finally I would like to thank all of my children, staff and Governors for all their hard work and continued support through what has been a very successful and rewarding time for the family of St John's.



Suzanne Howard
Head teacher of St John's CE Kearsley



“ Learn, Sparkle & Shine...”

2022 was once again a year filled with opportunities for our community to pull together, support each other and work with purposeful effort, driving forward our school intent statement.

What is our school intent and vision?

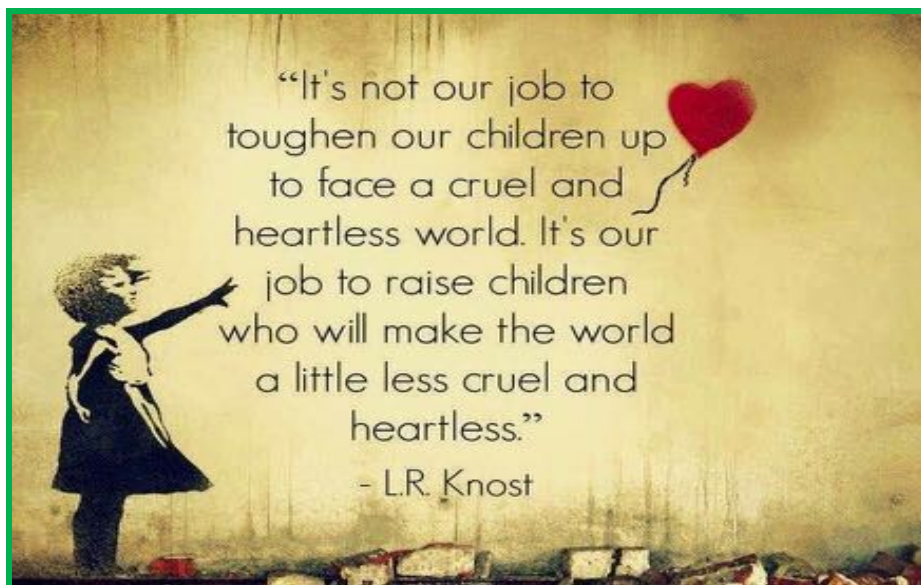
As teachers we are often charged with the task of preparing our children for their future.

At St. Peter's we think a little differently, and rather than prepare our children for a future that is imposed upon them, we aim to give them the skills necessary to create the future that they perceive for themselves.

Today is the tomorrow of yesterday. By controlling today, we are creating the future of tomorrow.

Our vision is to develop our children to enable them to create the future they aspire for themselves.




“Our children will contribute to and prosper in society.”



How will our vision be achieved?

We believe our vision will be achieved if we provide our children with an environment, underpinned by British and Christian values, in which they can;

“ Learn, Sparkle & Shine...”

	Our aim Our children will....	Our beliefs and values. Why?	Our strategy What will we do?
	Learn Allow for the development of wisdom, knowledge and skills.	We believe ability is a consequence of what happens in our classrooms not a cause! We believe inherited traits are only one part of the story of where we may end up. The environment created in our classrooms, the culture of hard work and determination that we encourage, the recognition that we are all able to increase our knowledge through learning, we believe, has an equally valid impact on our future success. (Learn)	Develop learners who recognise their own learning goals, aspirations and the role they play in determining their own destiny. (Learn) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the incremental learning theory – growth mindset approach Reward effort and attribute success to hard work and determination
	Sparkle Allow for the development of individuality; character development, hope, aspiration, courageous advocacy.	We believe that engaging in a rich and varied curriculum will provide our children with an opportunity to develop a positive attitude to learning and an environment in which they can flourish and thrive. (Sparkle)	Provide a curriculum that allows for a wide range of opportunities to be promoted and excellent outcomes achieved, across a wide range of areas. (Sparkle)
	Shine Allow for the development of community spirit – living well together.	We believe that by using Christian Values to underpin our work, children will be able to spread positive attitudes and shine as a beacon in society. (Shine)	Promote a community of kind, respectful Christian learners, with an underlying value of hope for their own future and that of the wider extended community; underpinned by Christian and British Values. (Shine)

Learn



Knowing more today than I did yesterday and more tomorrow than I do today!

Allow for the development of wisdom, knowledge and skills.

Sparkle



Sparkling is knowing who I am, what I love and being proud to be me.

Allow for the development of individuality; character development, hope, aspiration, courageous advocacy.

Shine



Sharing kindness, love and joy with other people.

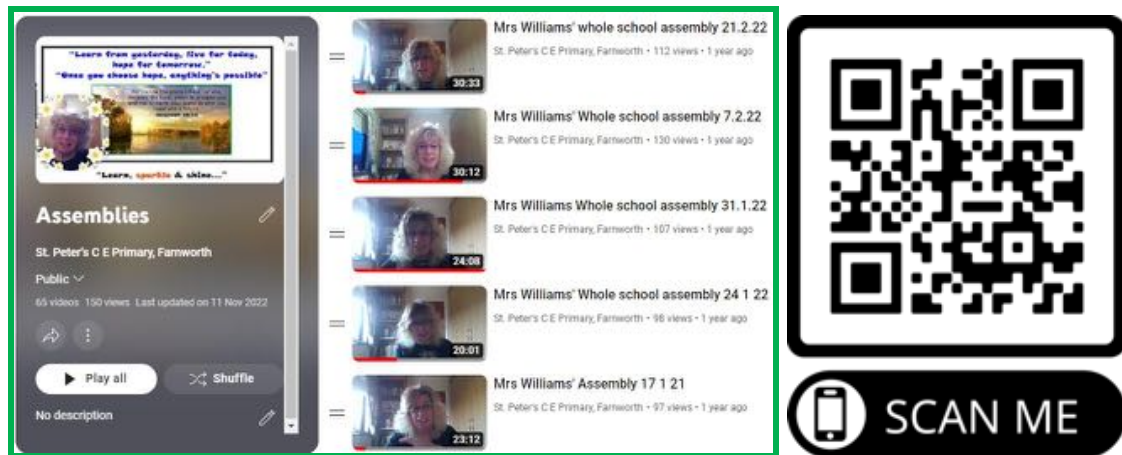
Allow for the development of community spirit – living well together.

Our daily work is dedicated to achieving these aims.

January 2022- August 2022

The new year in January 2022 commenced with some COVID restrictions remaining in place, and whole school worship continued to be 'virtual' until March 2022, when we deemed it safe to once again gather together in the hall as a school community to share our worship.

The weekly whole school assemblies from January 22 – March 22 can be found on the school YouTube Channel [here](#). It seems strange now to think that it was only this time last year, when I was spending most Sundays recording the worship video for the week ahead, and it is in fact true to say that those videos are now preserved for future years, a memory of a time not to be forgotten, a time that brought us together through screens, but a time where worship remained a central part of our time in school.



At St. Peter's each term is dedicated to promoting a particular Christian value, linked to a theme which the children are able to commit to memory and recite to SLT, staff and each other; to ensure the message is embedded for the children and is linked to their thoughts and actions. Weekly worship is dedicated to exemplifying and developing the children's knowledge and understanding of that theme, through song, story and prayer. The themes for the spring and summer terms of the 21-22 academic year are shown below.

Spring term Theme	Summer term Theme
<p>"Be the change you wish to see in the world. Your dreams can come true if you have the courage to pursue them."</p> <p>Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid. Do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.</p> <p>Joshua 1; 6-9</p> <p>"Learn, sparkle & shine..."</p>	<p>"Do things for people, not because of who they are, or what they do in return, but because of who you are!"</p> <p>BE KIND to each other FORGIVING each other, and the world around you</p> <p>"Learn, sparkle & shine..."</p>

Our commitment to a broad, rich and varied curriculum remained steadfast and the gallery below shows a snapshot of the extensive range of curriculum opportunities provided for the children to ensure they are able to '**contribute to and prosper in society**' and indeed;



Raising money for NSPCC Number Day	Turning our hall in to a theatre to watch The Hobbit	Learning about Lent with Fr Stephen	Comic relief day
			
Visit from a poet for Book day	Wear Blue for Bobby Day	Y1 Sponsored read raising £500 for Christian Aid	Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations
			
Y3 Wear yellow Cystic Fibrosis charity event	EYFS Race For Life	Y5 Sponsored Beach Clean for World Vision	Y6 'We Wander' for Gathimba Edwards foundation
			
Sunflower club Urban Outreach collection	Year 6 Art explorer award exhibition	Ks2 Fair Equality Workshops	Children's University Graduation
			
Shine team attend the ethos conference	Mental health workshops	Y6 end of year show	Visit by author Grandad Wheels
			

[Click here to visit the school blogs for Jan- Aug 2022 more information;](#)



Click [here](#) for the full gallery of pictures from the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations – what an honour to have a very special visitor for the day – along with her security team.



Parental and community involvement

We were delighted when we were able to once again invite parents in to school, to share all the wonderful learning taking place. The first event was the Reception class 'stay and learn' which saw a massive turn out of mums, dads, grandparents and other family members and carers, who came along to visit the reception class and share learning with their child.



Being able to invite parents to our Easter Service, led by Y3, meant that our long standing tradition of holding this poignant service in the school hall could be reinstated.



A further highlight was being able to once again invite parents along to 'Wiggle Worship' with the Early Years and Ks1 children. Thanks must go to the amazing **Children Changing Places Project** Team for their support with this, along with the other initiatives and projects they have supported during the tenure of the project, including the Y6 Emoji Project, led by the wonderful Alison Adlum.



Holding the Year 6 leavers service in St John's Church, along with other schools from the parish was a fantastic way to round the year off and say goodbye to our wonderful Y6 children, and is something we hope will become a tradition in years moving forward.



Pupil Leadership team

Our fantastic pupil leadership team, continued to grow in strength and impact, truly demonstrating our vision that children will shine like beacons in society, spreading and sharing kindness, love and joy with other people. The highlight of the year, was bringing the pupil voice teams from across Farnworth together for a combined initiative to raise money for Bolton Hospice. The 'park run' event organised by our pupil voice team raised over £1500 for this very worthy cause.



The academic year ended on a wonderful note when our amazing Mrs Redmond was named as the national silver winner at the Pearson Teaching Awards.



September 2022 – December 2022

The new academic year began with a new whole school theme, focussing on the Christian value of kindness.



It was a joy to begin the year hearing the children sharing this theme around school and demonstrating it through kind acts and words towards each other. This value was truly exemplified when we heard about the sad passing of our beloved Queen Elizabeth II. The school quickly created remembrance wreaths to display around school, to focus and channel our thoughts and sadness.



Our charity and community work has continued with events such as Farnworth and Kearsley Scarecrow Festival, Macmillan Coffee Afternoon, further visits from Wiggle and the commencement of Café Church on Saturdays each month.



Our harvest services once again generated an abundance of gifts for the Urban Outreach charity, whilst our Remembrance Service led by Y5, gave us an opportunity to consider the service of others in our own lives. The services can be found by clicking on the links below which will direct you to our school You Tube channel.

Ks1 Harvest	Ks2 Harvest	Remembrance
SCAN ME	SCAN ME	SCAN ME

A visit from Rock Kidz during anti bullying week, helped to reinforce our message of kindness to all, linked to our theme for the term. This visit also coincided with our annual aspirations week, where we help our children to understand and appreciate the importance of hard work, determination and effort, with the purpose of showing them that their destiny is determined by their attitude and commitment rather than something predetermined and beyond their control.

Other visitors during aspirations week were Chris Reddy – Bright Leaders and Healthy Minds UK, focussing on mental fitness.

The school year ended with a flurry of visits to award ceremonies, for which we are very appreciative.

Mrs Langley was shortlisted for the TES 2022 support staff of the year award along with the school being shortlisted for TES 2022 School of the year. Mrs Redmond was winner of the NW Educate Awards Primary School teacher of the year, and the school was named Bolton News School of the Year!



Farnworth continues to be a wonderful community to be a part of. The continuation of the Farnworth Matters project, brining all primary schools across Farnworth together, to work collectively for the greater good of the community is an inspiration for all. It is a pleasure to serve a community with such supportive parents and Governors and such wonderful children. As we move in 2023 we look forward to developing more opportunities for collaboration across the parish and beyond. With God's help we trust that this community can continue to build and develop, so that our children will benefit from a vibrant and aspirant community ethos.

Thank you Lynn Williams Head teacher

Parish of Farnworth and Kearsley

2022 Statement of Account end of jul 20

<u>Income</u>		2022	2021	variance
101 & 103	Parish regular giving	£15,517.92	£16,484.42	-966.50
104	Parish loose cash	**** £3,503.55	£2,351.71	1151.84
102	Reclaimed Tax	£5,868.09	£5,238.89	629.20
105	Donations	£1,971.13	£3,894.00	-1922.87
105	Bells	£0.00	£92.00	-92.00
203a	Fairs and events	£176.00	£478.90	-302.90
203b	Charity **	£141.20	£5.00	136.20
402	Building rental (+Mast)	£9,243.85	£10,022.54	-778.69
403	Magazine	£587.48	£208.00	379.48
404	Weddings	£734.00	£506.00	228.00
404	Funerals	£8,666.00	£5,182.60	3483.40
404	Baptisms	£124.65	£0.00	124.65
	monies for churchyard	£300.00	£140.00	160.00
	coffee fund	£0.00	£298.10	-298.10
	Internal transfer from Dormant A/C	£14,577.07		14577.07
	Register Fees	£0.00	£0.00	0.00
	insurance claim	£0.00	£0.00	0.00
	CBF investment fund	£0.00	£0.00	0.00
	Sundry	£2,225.88	£88.89	2136.99
	Youth worker	£0.00	£0.00	0.00
	Clergy Expenses	£2,770.36	£6,973.08	-4202.72
	Cash Paid out on SUNDAY	-£1,148.00		
	Total Income	£65,259.18	£51,964.13	13295.05
	Parish Income	£50,682.11		

Expenditure

2001	Quota	£20,000.00	£19,849.93	150.07
2002	Clergy Stationary and Post	£58.37	£0.00	58.37
2002	Travel Expenses	£99.48	£972.24	-872.76
2002	Telephones	£455.00	£1,112.15	-657.15
2003	Parsonages General	£0.00	£1,610.62	-1610.62
2003	Council Tax	£3,113.64	£3,752.56	-638.92
2005	Heat & light & Ins St Johns	£16,632.75	£11,442.82	5189.93
2006	Maintenance	£4,552.06	£2,749.91	1802.15
2007	Service Requisites	£736.16	£797.46	-61.30
2008	Churchyard	£300.00	£290.00	10.00
2016	Organists	£0.00	£90.00	-90.00
2016	Vergers	£0.00	£0.00	0.00
4000	Printer Stationary	£1,052.79	£515.73	537.06
	Parochial fees	£4,600.00	£4,097.00	503.00
1004	Charity	£85.00	£77.00	8.00
	Holiday Club	£0.00	£50.00	-50.00
	sundry	£100.00	£25.00	75.00
	Internal transfer from Dormant A/C	£14,577.07		
	Total Expenditure	£66,362.32	£47,432.42	18929.90
	Total less Dormant Fund	£51,785.25		

Bank Reconciliation

		Total	Current	Savings
Balance at	01/01/2022	£60,338.14	£45,761.07	£14,577.07
Surplus / Deficit for year		£51,785.25		
Presented cheques from	2021	£0.00		
Minor Projects Surp/Def		£0.00		
Coffee Fund Surp/Def		£0.00		
Rest fund (current) Surp/Def		£0.00		
Unpresented cheques from	2022	£0.00		

Balance				
at	31/12/22	£59,235.00	£59,235.00	£0.00

Minor Projects monies	£1,376.72
Coffee fund monies	£2,675.00
Restoration Fund monies	£0.00
Youth worker monies retained	£0.00
HST fund	£10,980.23
Funds at year end in parish general account	£59,235.00
