



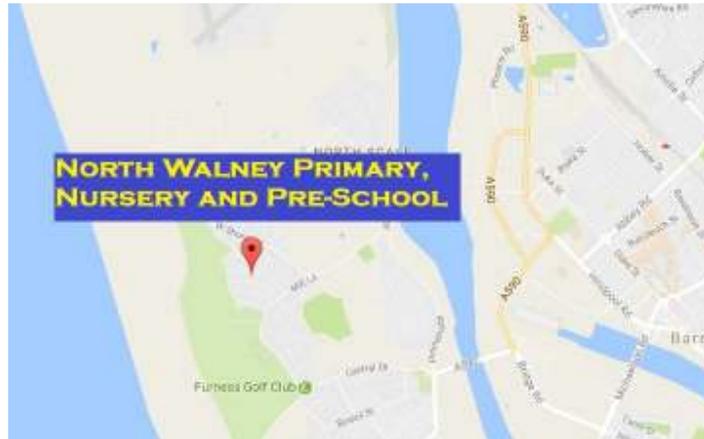
North Walney Primary, Nursery & Pre-School

"Creative Learning, Quality Education, Achieving Dreams"

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WE'RE BACK ON THE MAP!

29th March 2017

Dear Parents, Carers, Children, Staff and Governors

I am absolutely delighted and rightly proud to attach our latest Ofsted report which shows how far the school has come in such a short space of time – and after a number of years of turmoil. I am most proud of the fact that it has recognised the dedication of our committed staff and governors who “rallied round the school and with efforts beyond what could be expected of them, ensured the school ran on a day-to-day basis.”

Yes, there are things we still need to do as a school, but there is nothing in the report that we weren't already aware of and weren't already working towards achieving – and this is recognised throughout the report. The school is on a journey forward and we are going at full speed to put our wonderful school back on the map!

Many of you have been involved in the school over the last 'interesting' few years of North Walney's life and your comments to the inspector really brought it home to him how difficult things have been for pupils, parents and staff – but he also recognised your own commitment to the school and the fact that “Everyone now has faith in the school!” as we continue to move forward together. So thank you for your continued support and for being a big part of our journey!

I have pulled out a few of the highlights of the report which detail where the school currently is and where it is going as, sadly, reports always start with the negative comments first and as Mr Mackenzie (the inspector) said – please make sure you read the detail as there is much to be celebrated!

So, once again, a huge thank you for your support of me as the new Headteacher, and of the school as we continue to go from strength to strength to strength – Viva North Walney!



Paul Slater

'Children are at the heart of the decisions we make'

North Walney Primary, Nursery and Pre-School School requires improvement but is on track to become a Good school very soon...and here is why...*(some statements paraphrased to make sense)*

- “The leadership of the school’s Early Year’s provision, safeguarding and provision for pupils with special educational needs continues to be strong.”
- “Teachers and teaching assistants have a very clear focus: to teach. The school is a very purposeful environment. Resources are being modernised and improved.”
- “The management of teaching is now stronger and more effective.”
- The school has been “transformed in a surprisingly short period of time. One parent captured this when she said: ‘Everyone now has faith in the school. That’s us, children and staff.’”
- “Pupil welfare is strong. Safeguarding is strong. All adults in the school know pupils very well, and often their families too. All adults show great sensitivity and professionalism towards caring for pupils.”
- “The assistant Headteacher, teachers and other staff rallied round the school and with efforts beyond what could be expected of them, ensured that the school ran on a day-to-day basis.”
- Teachers “have a sense of value and self-worth because they know they are once again able to teach well.”
- “Pupils move around the school calmly and show courtesy to other pupils and adults. At break and lunchtimes they play harmoniously and mix well. Different genders and age groups play happily together, the older looking after the younger.”
- The “accurate evaluation of the school has enabled them to develop an excellent school improvement plan”
- “Children leave Reception with good standards of behaviour” and “They are keen to learn, happy and enthusiastic.”
- “Relationships with parents have improved considerably and they are much better informed about how their children are performing at school” and “Parents were very complimentary about the support given to their children.”
- “The school has always promoted pupils spiritual, moral, social and cultural development well through activities and this aspect of the school has also improved with a greater focus on prompting better attitudes and personal development.” – “Celebration is a very important part of the school routine.”
- The school’s “leadership of safeguarding manage difficult situations skilfully, ensuring all pupils are safe” and it “works well with other agencies who share responsibility for children’s safety and protection.”
- “Pupils look out for each other because they have well-developed sense of care and responsibility. Pupils seek guidance from staff and confide in them because they know staff have their best interests at heart.”
- “Allegations of bullying are always fully investigated by the school” and “pupils indicate there is no bullying in the school and pupils are confident that if it did happen staff would deal with it well.”
- The school has “found a considerable amount of additional funding to reinvigorate the library and reading schemes.”
- “Teachers in early years and key stage 1 are identifying pupils who are particularly able. They now have higher expectations of these pupils and give them work which matches their ability.”
- Teaching assistants “are adaptable and improving their skills in helping all pupils,. Some are particularly skilled in supporting pupils who have special educational needs and/or disabilities.”
- “Parents, pupils and teachers say there is now an entirely different culture in the school. The headteacher has defined clear expectations. Positive behaviour is rewarded and poor behaviour punished. There are very few boys who now need significant and skilled management to enable them to behave well.”
- “All celebrate this considerable and very important improvement to the school. They say it has been the single most important improvement that has enabled better teaching and achievement.”
- “This is changing rapidly.”

So – a lot of great comments about how the whole school is going forward which is simply wonderful and something on which we can now all build. As for the areas for improvement, as a leadership team we are already aware of these and will be working hard to ensure that all areas are covered and dealt with over the coming year.

If you have any comments you would like to make about our report, or any further ideas of how we can continue to build the school’s performance and community in the future – please do drop me an email or pop in to see me. North Walney is a fantastic school that is clearly going places!