

CREATING A SCHOOL VISION



Working with
The New S.I.A.M.S.
Inspection Formula
at
Walsham le Willows
CEVCP School
A Quick Overview

Timeline

- July 2015: last SIAMS visit.
- Start of September 2018: began preparing for another inspection under the new schedule.
- 20th September 2018: Foundation governor attended 'An Introduction to SIAMS'.
- October half term: Rector and Foundation governor met to throw some ideas around.

Timeline

- 12th November 2018: Foundation governor given further insight at a 'SIAMS Vision Development' training.
- 19th November 2018: Head Teacher, Chair of Governors, Foundation Governor and Rector, (also Foundation), met with Phil Knowles to begin planning *an approach*.



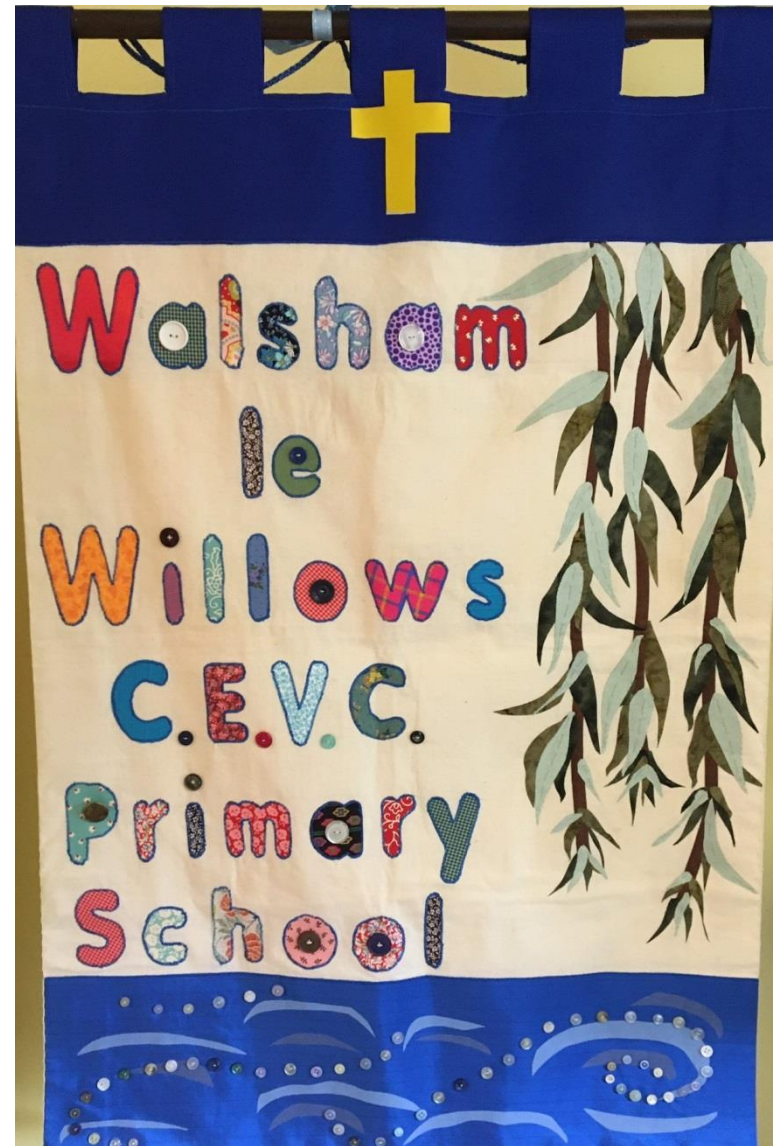
Our Vision for the School and Children

- A place with Christian spirit, stability, high quality teaching, learning and teamwork with a goal in mind that.....
- every child should become the best they can be.....
- in as rounded a way as possible.....
- and using every resource available.

But that doesn't make the school unique

Distinctiveness comes from where, and who, we are.

- Walsham le Willows is a **strong name**.
- The village has lots of willows and other **trees**.
- A Wild Wood
- A **stream** running beside the main street.
- The **school banner** already uses those features.
- Several streets and paths.



Those ideas led to Biblical parallels

- **Psalm 1:** a strong man being like a tree beside a stream, soaking up the water and using it to produce healthy leaves and good fruit.
- **Galatians 5,22:** the 9 fruits of the Spirit.
- **John 4,11:** Jesus being the 'living water'.
- **John 15,8:** Jesus' followers should produce much fruit.

A Bible Concordance is very useful for this

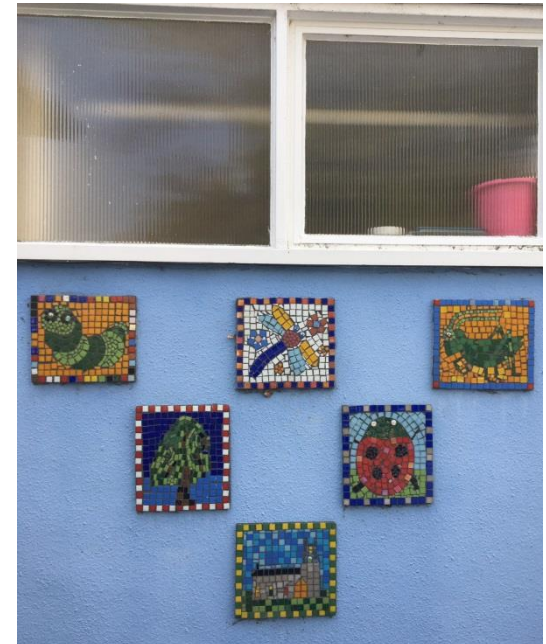
The Vision became clearer

- The children are soaking up whatever the parents, school and community can provide...
- ...in this unique place.
- This should all come together to make them 'the best they can be',
- which will stand them in good stead to go out into the world to produce 'good fruit' throughout their lives.
- Every one of us is an individual and unique.

How to 'show' the Vision



- The school has several mosaics to brighten its grey squatness.
- Perhaps a mosaic of the vision could be made?



Back to the....



- The mosaic was being agreed in principle.....
-when our head teacher piped up:
“The Bishop is coming at the end of the Easter term, for the service. We could have the mosaic up on the wall by then and he can unveil it!”
- *That was 20 weeks away and three of them were school holidays!*

We Can Do It!

- **Yes**, we can do that!
- Of course we can do it.....can't you Di?



Back to the timeline

- Pray.
- Talk to staff.
- Assembly.
- Letter sent to parents detailing :
 - WHY
 - VISION
 - COMPETITION – entries to be in by December 14th
- Letter & Competition in Village 'Observer'.

Still Praying

- Contacted mosaic artists, RoJo Art – discussion.
- Competition closes Dec. 14th with about 40 entries, including one from an adult.
- Met with RoJo Art, decision made on two designs that could show the vision most clearly and would respond to a picture in mosaics.
- Quote of up to £3,000 (**gulp!**). More prayer.
- Start of Christmas holidays.

Easter Term 2019

- Began to look for funding:
 - Each District Councillor has their own ‘Amenity Fund’ from which they can award groups in the community. County Councillors have a similar fund.
 - Walsham le Willows runs a very successful annual Gardens’ Weekend and is happy to support the school.
 - There is a Trust in the village that has given money to the school in the distant past but an application had not been sent for anything recently.

Prayer Works!

These requests were sent off and further ideas were sought as to how else we could raise money using the children.

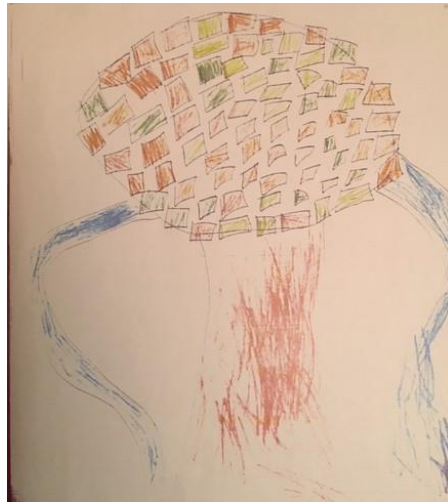
However, suddenly and shockingly, all the money was given to the school – even enough to cover the two brass plaques at the side.



The Design Created



Harry's
(above)



Tommy's
(to right)



Original drawing by RoJo Art.
Size: 1.5m x 1.2m

26th February 2019 – it begins



and the scrapbook
grew and grew.

Every Child Took Part



as did every member of staff, parents, governors, grandparents, councillors, in fact anyone who came into the school was invited to place some tiles!

Harry and Tommy, the Designers

Working on a special project.



13th March, Bishops Martin and Mike, on their Lenten Pilgrimage, called in for a sneak preview.



Invitations went out for the unveiling



5th April 2019



Unveiled!





On the Plaque beside the Walsham Mosaic

**“Each of us takes a unique path through life
but where we spend our childhood
we soak up community, goodness
and knowledge;
learning what we need for the future,
and the fruit our lives will produce.”**

Psalm 1:3; John 4:11; John 15:8; Galatians 5:22

Now to Embed the Vision

- It needs to be used and developed.
- Y6 are taking the Discovery Centre's course on 'Pilgrim's Progress' throughout this year: one session each half term. They are looking ahead to the paths their lives might take.
- The end of school year, leaver's prayer cards, use the image of the mosaic and a reference to the vision.
- Laminated pictures of the mosaic around the school ask, 'What does the mosaic mean to you?'

Name of Child



As you leave Walsham le Willows CEVC Primary School
We pray that all we have been able to teach you; all you
have soaked up and learned, will produce wonderful 'fruit'
and awesome opportunities along your path in life.
We are always happy to have you return and tell us where
your path has led you and wish you all God's blessings
along the way.

This is our special prayer for you:
"May God's blessing surround you each day, as you
trust him and walk in his way. May his presence
within guard and keep you from sin.
Go in peace, go in joy, go in love. Amen "

"As you leave Walsham le Willows CEVC Primary School we pray that all we have been able to teach you; all you have soaked up and learned, will produce wonderful 'fruit' and awesome opportunities along your path in life.

We are always happy to have you return and tell us where your path has led you and wish you all God's blessings along the way."



