The Federation of Antrobus St Marks and Great Budworth CE (A) Primary School
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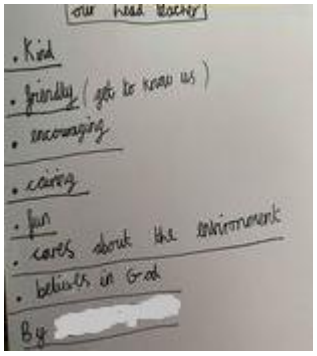
We asked our stakeholders what they were looking for from our new Headteacher. These are the responses that we had.

Thoughts from our pupils

- “I would like our school traditions to be kept, like the church services, the maypole dancing and the elf days.”
- “I would like someone who is nice, kind and helpful, who likes saying hello and chatting to the children.”
- “Someone who loves Jesus.”
- “I would want them to be kind, respectful, keep me safe and be helpful and caring.”
- “Someone who is enthusiastic about learning.”
- 

- “I would like someone musical, helpful and happy. I think they should care about God.”
- “I would like someone who is quite sporty and likes art. I think they should be kind and like to have a laugh. I think they should be firm but fair with everyone.”
- “They should be fun, kind and hears all sides of the story before shouting. They should like drama lessons but doesn’t cause drama.”

Thoughts from our staff

- "Willingness to embrace the 'family' ethos and unique character of our Federation"
- "Knows the staff and plays to our strengths."
- "Forward thinking, creative approach to problem solving – e.g., how to deal with huge variation in cohort sizes."
- "Best interests of the children at the heart of everything."

- "Knowledge and/or experience of mixed age classes and the associated challenges for teachers."
- "Supports the wellbeing of staff wherever possible - no 'work for work's sake' or 'box ticking'. "

Thoughts from our parents

- “The head must show a warmth and desire to get to know the children. Our school has a family feel which is at the heart of what makes it so unique – neither children nor parents would wish for that to change.”
- “The head must have good lines of communication with parents.”
- “A head that listens, has empathy and understanding. They must be approachable for both the children and parents.”
- “The head must believe in and lead the process that allows the children to feel happy, safe and confident.”
- “They should have faith in the team around them and know that all staff buy into and take forward the ethos and vision of the school”.
- “Someone who is able to lead and support the current team, with a good clear vision, and when needed makes the necessary changes to ensure the school continues to go from strength to strength.”
- “The head must be seen regularly around the school, whether it be welcoming the children in the morning, or simply asking them if they have had an enjoyable weekend. Time is very precious and seeing a head taking the time to talk to pupils is a positive sight.”
- “A primary school environment is very important as this is the basis for a child’s grounding in life. They need to feel loved, supported and challenged, but not pushed. Results are important, but it is more important that my child wants to attend school every day. They need to learn basic skills like friendship, respect and believing in themselves.”
- “The Head must believe in the Christian ethos of the school and be able to personally live this out in order for the Christian message to be seen as genuine, accessible and accepting.”
- “Approachable, understands a village school, good listening, and prompt responses to issues as they arise. Communication between school and home is vital especially during difficult times. Pre-empting and planning for challenges ahead i.e. showing initiative! Understanding and experience with mixed aged classes and rigorous monitoring of progress.”
- “Communication is really the key and dedication to making the most of a small school environment. Making sure the strength and weakness every individual child is recognised and that they are encouraged and motivated to achieve their full potential.”
- “For me what makes the school special is its Christian ethos and caring family feel that cares about the whole child not just the SATs although academics is important as are sporting opportunities. The head needs to live the Christian ethos, not bring politics into the classroom, value more than just the academics but still ensure that each child finds the challenge that they need. A character who is very kind and understanding but also firm to ensure children learn the right values.”
- “I value a head that really wants to support the children in their mental health, look after their needs and their staffs needs and wants the staff to work well as a team ensuring they are happy and therefore happy to work at the school in their team. Someone who is approachable and able to be spoken to by parents not just lock themselves in their room.”