



We are One

In July 2014, the Governing bodies of Market Rasen Church of England primary school and Nettleton Community primary school, agreed to form a new Federation - now the North Wolds Federation. In forming the federation, the two governing bodies merged into a single entity which oversees both schools.

We are 1 year old!

After a year of the North Wolds Federation, we are delighted to report that both schools have benefitted from the shared resources, good practice, staff assessment, expertise of both staff and governors, and teachers have shared lesson preparations, giving them more time to teach.

The new IPC curriculum was purchased jointly by both schools as are many of the other resources, joint training days etc which means we have greater purchasing power to strike a better deal - saving money which means more can be used to educate our children.

Both schools have run joint school trips, and enjoy access to the swimming pool, experience of the different atmospheres in a large town school and a smaller rural school. We have run joint Easter and Summer schools, a combined sports day, and breakfast clubs operate in both schools which have helped to improve attendance and reduce lateness. Combined training of staff in dealing with behavioural issues has produced a culture of good behaviour in both our schools, which is essential for the right conditions for learning.

Staff at both schools have benefited from opportunities for mobility, wider scope of experience, collaboration on staff development, scrutiny and moderation. Our school administrator serves both sites, there is a greater wealth of knowledge, a depth of provision, more people have more ideas!

Children from both schools have been involved in a number of sporting competitions, and have represented their schools so successfully that governors are now in the enviable position of having to fund a new trophy cabinet at Market Rasen!

Despite all this collaboration, both schools have retained their own unique identities and both have their own Friends of School Association (FOSA) although even these do have informal links with each other to share ideas!

Another new initiative this year has been the introduction of our Federation Twitter feed and our jointly branded websites. We have seen increasing pupil numbers at both sites, which shows that parents appreciate all the improvements to both the schools and choose to send their children to us over other local schools.

What a successful year this has been, and very soon, we hope to have our school kitchen up and running at Market Rasen to provide healthy hot meals to both schools.

Governors from the federation governing body have been heavily involved in all the the projects and improvements listed above – both supporting the Headteacher and staff and also providing expertise and skills from their own experience. Our governors all know and regularly visit both schools, and continue to strive for improvement of our buildings, learning environment, facilities, teaching resources, and the professional development of staff so that all our children at both schools receive the best education we can possibly provide.

We thank all parents for your continued support of both schools and the North Wolds Federation and for playing your part in making this year such a successful one.