

A year in the life of Temple Guiting School.

This time last year we were 3 months into our building project. We were at this point, 2 weeks behind schedule and finding the huge amount of cladding we needed difficult to source for the price we had budgeted for.

Our wonderful Contractor Bill Nesbitt and Architect Tim Tasker sourced a consignment of FRAKE – a sustainable African Hardwood that is ultra-heat treated and will last for 50-60 years. It's even better than the Siberian Larch we had originally wanted. This was a great example of how the project team worked. It meant that when the keys were handed to us on September 2nd our building was completed on time and within budget. In fact, we were slightly under budget as we still had a few thousand pounds contingency left and so we used it for landscaping. The building is beyond amazing – it is far better than we could ever have hoped for, it is so sustainable and is absolutely fit for purpose. We are so pleased with it.

We are now in the process of getting quotes to renovate the old building – it needs repainting and all the flooring needs replacing. We are also looking at having to replace some of the roof in the old building as the tiles are decaying rapidly.

OFSTED paid us a visit in April last year – we were not really expecting them at that point. We retained our “Good School “ status but we know they will be returning in the next year to ensure everything remains good or better.

We had a great set of exam results last summer across all the assessments the children took. We worked hard to make sure all the children were well prepared. We decided earlier in the year to change our Phonics scheme – this is how we teach early reading and spelling. This was a big change but both children and staff are loving the new scheme.

Our numbers of pupils on roll is good at the moment – we have 94 and we are full for Reception next year which is wonderful news.

We are really looking forward to a busy summer term -exams start in just over a week and continue into June. After that point we get to do all the brilliant stuff like Sports day, mental health and wellbeing day, whole school visit to Art in Nature, an Art exhibition and of course the school play. This will be the last play Cindy Brown will direct as she is retiring at the end of the term. She is irreplaceable and we are going to have to think hard about school plays when she is gone.

As always in a school no two days are ever the same but it is still the best place to work and make a difference to children's lives.

Ann Barry

Headteacher