



Julia values the excellent communication and supportive community at Holy Trinity C of E Primary School

Julia lives in Cookridge with her two children, Sebastian (Sebbie), who is nine and in Year 5, and Violet, who is five and in Year 1.

Starting school

Both of Julia's children had very different experiences of starting school: "Sebbie went to nursery in Harrogate, as I was working there, so he started at Holy Trinity not knowing anyone, but he settled in really well. He's quite a confident, easy-going boy," she explains.

For Violet, the transition was a little different. "Violet went to nursery just up the road, so she had lots of friends going to the same school and used to come on the school run with me every day, so we thought it would be really easy for her," says Julia. However, due to growing up during COVID, Violet's reserved nature made the first few weeks more challenging. "She can feel anxious about things, so she did struggle when she first started, but she's now settled in really well."

The supportive teachers at Holy Trinity played a crucial role in Violet's adjustment: "The teachers were really great with her, and she loved it when she was in."

Breakfast and After School Club

When it comes to what they enjoy most about school, both children have clear favourites. "Sebbie said his favourite thing is food! They like their school dinners, and it's nice for them to have a hot meal." Playtime is also a highlight for both Sebastian and Violet. "The social aspect is what they've most enjoyed about the school. They've made some really good friends."

Both children participate in the breakfast and after-school clubs, and Sebastian also takes part in extracurricular activities. "They do the breakfast and after-school club, and Sebbie has also done Lego club at school, which he enjoys." Although they miss some sports clubs due to scheduling, Julia notes the variety offered, including archery, football, and netball.

Exceptional support and communication from teachers

Julia praises the teachers for their exceptional support and appreciates the open communication channels. "They've all got an email address. If you've got any problems, you can message them or talk to them at the end of the day; you can always catch them."

In Reception especially, Julia notes that the communication has been fantastic. "They use Tapestry, which is an online platform. They provide loads of weekly information, including updates of what the children will be doing subject-wise."

Overcoming challenges

Sebastian, being left-handed, initially struggled with writing. "When he first started, he found it difficult to keep his writing neat and legible," Julia explains. Recognising this, his teachers helped him and, as a result, his writing has seen remarkable improvement: "This year, he's really got into it, and his writing has become a lot neater," Julia notes.

A strong sense of community

Julia values the strong sense of community at Holy Trinity, especially the school's Parent Teacher Association (PTA). "The PTA has been fantastic this year, organising loads of extracurricular activities like discos and dress-down days. There's always something keeping the children interested." She also appreciates the support network among parents, facilitated by a WhatsApp group for reminders and updates.

The school's OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) initiative has also been a valuable addition. "It's just added extra interest at playtime. They've got so much stuff now, like crafts and activities. It's good for confidence and building relationships."

Julia is pleased with the school's efforts to create a positive environment. "It's reduced the number of problems and fallouts at lunchtime because they're busier. There's a lot of interesting activities for them, so I think that's something the school has done brilliantly."

Children say

Sebastian says: I like D.T and art as I enjoy making and creating things.

Violet says: My favourite subject is phonics where I learn new sounds.



Cookridge Holy Trinity Church of England (VA) Primary School
Green Lane, Cookridge, Leeds, LS16 7EZ

Telephone: 0113 2253 040

Email: info@holytrinity.leeds.sch.uk

Website: www.holytrinity.leeds.sch.uk

Devised and produced by Stoneworks Education Ltd www.stoneworkseducation.co.uk

© Stoneworks Education Limited 2014-2024. All rights reserved.