

Rosie is grateful to Welldon Park Primary School for the care and support they have offered her family

Rosie and Trefor Bark live in South Harrow with their children, Timothy, 13, Ben, 11 in Year 6 and Joe, nine, in Year 4.

Welcoming, friendly and supportive

Rosie and Trefor have a great deal of experience with Welldon Park Primary School. "Over the years, we've got to know the school and the staff very well. There's a very friendly atmosphere at Welldon Park Primary School. Our four children have all attended and it feels almost like family to us after all this time." Rosie and Trefor's eldest child, Helena, sadly passed away in 2015. "The staff at

Welldon Park have offered our family a lot of valuable support during what has been a particularly difficult period and we're very grateful to them."

Excellent pastoral support

Whatever needs children have within the school, Rosie feels the teachers have been excellent at providing both academic and pastoral support.

"With their sister being ill, Ben and Joe have received a lot of support over the last couple of years. Some of the current teachers knew Helena well from her time at the school and they were very caring and understanding to us as family, but they were especially good at supporting the boys and helping them to understand and manage their emotions. The school provided the boys with the opportunity of talking to the school counsellor. It was someone they could meet with on a regular basis outside of the family; we know both boys found these individual sessions useful and we really appreciated the opportunity being made available to them."

Supporting individual learning needs

The school has also provided support in terms of academic work and trying to improve Joe's attention and focus in class. "Timothy has Asperger's and Joe is also currently being assessed as he is showing some similar traits," explains Rosie. "He finds it hard to focus and write when the paper used is a blank page; his finds it difficult to keep his attention focused and will start looking around the room. The teachers have understood this and have worked with him by providing paper which has Dr Who pictures on it. It has really helped to hold Joe's attention and has enabled him to focus better on writing tasks."

Strong relationships

Ben is about to start at secondary school; Rosie feels sure he has enjoyed his time at Welldon Park. "All of my children have been content at Welldon Park; it's a school which offers a friendly atmosphere and a welcoming environment where the children have made strong friendships and had good relationships with the teachers. I'm sure Ben will miss Welldon Park but I feel he is well prepared for the next steps in his education."

Interesting and varied teaching

Rosie believes Joe and Ben have found the teaching enjoyable, varied and interesting. "The 'learning adventure' has been a particular favourite. Each class learns about a particular topic and then goes around each class teaching their knowledge to the rest of the school, focusing on different aspects of what they have learned. They make displays and learning activities to share with the other classes. I think Ben and Joe have really enjoyed learning in this way; seeing what everyone else has been learning and putting together activities to teach the other children. It's a different way of sharing their knowledge; it varies the teaching experience for them and I think that's really positive."

A school which cares

Rosie adds: "Welldon Park Primary School is a warm and friendly school and my children have all done very well here. It's a school which cares about its children and their families and will provide excellent support when it's needed."

Children say:

Ben says: "I've really enjoyed my time at Welldon Park Primary School; I particularly enjoyed PE and the outdoor activities."

Joe says: "I like History lessons at school because I like to learn about the past."



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