

Sharing the Good Word!



Jane Halls with a group of Year 6 pupils at the Wickford Conference last week.

Last Thursday, 23rd April, staff at Bulmer St Andrew's C of E Primary School shared outstanding practise at a county wide Conference in Wickford.

Mrs Sasha Halls our Year 5/6 Teacher and Mrs Jane Halls, her Teaching Assistant and sister-in-law, along with 12 Year 6 pupils modelled to around 40 delegates on how guided sessions for literacy are run in our school.

The school was asked to model the sessions to exemplify outstanding practise. What made the event

particularly exciting was it was the first time that both Teacher and Teaching Assistant have presented this with children live at a conference.

Jane is the first Teaching Assistant in the county to do model her practise to teachers and, despite her nerves in front of so many teachers, did a superb job. Delegates' evaluation comments included one by Kim Hunter of Priory School, "Observing the guided session was excellent. I observed the group working independently and could really see how children work well together and take responsibility for this."

Carole Sleightholme, Lead Curriculum Advisor – Primary Literacy who tutored the course commented, "They were both wonderful and the day went brilliantly as reflected in the glowing evaluations! Every one of the delegates mentioned how this had been useful in moving their practise forward – they were very complimentary and their praise was very well deserved.

Staff from other schools have visited Bulmer to see how our practise has developed. "It wonderful to see how far the school has progressed over the last two years. Our staff work very well as part of a small team. We're all very proud of our school and the children here."

Ellena Mortimer
Headteacher