



SPECIAL EDITION

# 40<sup>th</sup> Celebrations

## BISHOP'S VISIT

We celebrated 40 years of the official opening of a school on our Mill Lane site on Wednesday of this week with a visit by the Bishop of Norwich, the Right Reverend Graham James. He greeted the children at Holt Road in a worship assembly and led prayers before he moved on to Mill Lane for the official ceremony. It was lovely to welcome back Mr Slack and Mrs Browning, who were previous headteacher and class teacher respectively, along with our Chair of Governors, Judy Leggett, Brian Blythe from the Horsford Parish Council and Reverend Garry from our Open the Book team.



*The photos above are from Horsford All Saints VC Middle School throughout the late 1970s and 1980s.*

Some of our Year 5 and 6 children shared their prayers with us and the Bishop and Reverend Margaret led the worship. It was a memorable morning looking back at old photos and reminiscing about the changes that have taken place at Mill Lane over the last 40 years.



*Children from Year 5 and 6 shared their prayers with us*

*Dear God,  
Thank you for all of the lovely teachers who have taught at our school. People may not say it all of the time but they are all very grateful for our school. Please help all of our teachers to stay healthy and achieve great things with our school. Thank you for our lovely lessons, like English and maths. Help our school keep producing great children filled with wisdom and knowledge. Let us have an amazing anniversary and to keep going on through the years.  
Amen  
By Mia Genc, Year 6*

*Lai-Dodou and Brandon read us the story of the house built upon sand from Matthew 7: 24 to 28.*



## **THE HISTORY OF HORSFORD SCHOOLS**

In 1856 the first school started in Horsford, and this was the old Wesleyan Chapel in School lane. It was converted into a National school for 60 children.

In 1865 a council school was erected with a school house (now incorporated in our Holt Road site), with places for 150 children. The cost of this was £860. The average attendance was 90 pupils. In 1939 when the war started, the school took evacuees.

In 1947 the Church accepted the help of the state and it was officially designated Horsford Voluntary Controlled School.

The centenary was celebrated in 1965, and in 1969 a new two classroom infants' block was built at the rear of our Holt Road site.

In 1973 the first phase of the new Middle School was opened and 120 Horsford pupils of 8 years and over transferred. The new building, with its splendid facilities and specialist areas was completed in 1975 and opened in September with 224 pupils from Horsford, Felthorpe and St Faiths. The original building in Horsford then became Horsford First School.

In 1979 Horsford Middle School had nearly 300 pupils with the 12+ children transferring to Taverham High School.

In 2007, First and Middle Schools within the Norwich area reorganised into Infant and Junior Schools, which meant our Mill Lane site received children from Year 3 and children transferred to Hellesdon High at the end of Year 6.

In September 2012 the governing bodies of both Horsford schools federated.

On 31 August 2015 both schools officially closed and Horsford CE VA Primary opened on 1 September 2015 as part of the Nebula Partnership.

In Autumn 2017, the governing bodies of Horsford, Harnser, White Woman Lane and Old Catton Junior Schools disbanded and a new Nebula governing body for the federation was formed.

On Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2018, we celebrated 40 years since the official opening of a school on the Mill Lane site.

One wonders what changes there will be over the next 40 years.