

Droxford Junior School Report



Luna, the school dog

AS YOU MAY BE AWARE WE NOW HAVE A SCHOOL DOG. HER NAME IS LUNA. LUNA WAS BORN ON APRIL 11TH 2019. HER

mother is Zola, a kind, caring dog who had been visiting schools herself, as a therapy / reading dog. Zola and the father of Luna are pedigree working / gun dogs. Prior to Luna being born I visited Luna's breeder, with Luna's vet, to meet Zola and see the environment she was to start her life in and hear the philosophy of the breeder. We were both impressed and the vet was extremely happy. We both felt confident this was someone who really cared and wanted this to be a successful project.

Luna's breeder was delighted when she found out I wanted a school dog. As Zola had already been in to schools, she had seen the value of a kind, friendly, welcoming and non-judgemental spirit in school. As a retired Special Educational Needs teacher she understood the value of schools having a dog like Luna in school.

Luna was chosen specifically for her role in school. From a litter of eight the breeder knew instantly what was needed from a dog in a school environment in terms of temperament, intelligence, and behaviour. She chose well – we managed to get the pick of the litter!

Luna started in school straight away – 8 weeks old. The thinking behind this decision was to acclimatise her to her working environment. I chose the second half of summer term 2019, as it meant warmer days, SATs were over and the holidays weren't far away.

What a success it has been! She is loved by all. Luna has a wonderful nature and is delighted to be in school. She has already made a difference to children's lives and they revel in seeing her in school. The adults love her too.

In terms of her welfare, she was immediately seen by her vet, who she sees regularly for a health check-up. She is microchipped and has an excellent Hip score. She has also had all her inoculations and is appropriately insured.

Luna will have a wonderful life. She spends her day in our beautiful rural school being walked, stimulated, and generally doted on (whilst working – of course). She is based in my office. She then comes home with me every day and is cherished as a family pet. She goes training every Sunday and eventually, when she loses her puppy enthusiasm, will become our reading / therapy dog.

Matthew Dampier Headteacher



Luna



Luna is loved by all the adults and children in our school