



MERRY
CHRISTMAS
2022

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM YOUR CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

As we come to the end of the year and with Christmas rapidly approaching, I would like to take this opportunity to keep you informed of the work of your Governing body.

Over the last term, the Performance and Standards committee have discussed the School Development plan with a focus on strengthening the prayer life of the children, improving the reading culture within the school, looking at the Early Years resources and curriculum, leadership of curriculum areas and, as with almost every school, focussing on raising standards in writing. Our data after SATs show that in most areas we scored around the National average but that maths was a real strength of the school, achieving better than National averages. Congratulations go to staff and pupils but work has continued to ensure that we achieve highly in all areas for our pupils.

The Finance and Resources committee have discussed the school uniform policy to ensure that our school uniform is accessible to all. They have looked at the school staffing structure and Performance management of staff to ensure funding is spent carefully and effectively. Snagging from all the work undertaken over the summer continues to be a focus, and improvements to the Early Years outdoor area have been agreed as well as a new Phonics resource across the school. As with everyone, energy prices have led to major discussions to ensure that we can balance the school budget. Included in our discussions was the recent parental survey. It was disappointing that only 16 families responded but there were some fantastic responses, also some that give us areas to improve. Responses to these will be worked on in the New Year.

Governors have visited the school to monitor safeguarding, topic work, phonics, standards in RE and Literacy, and the prayer life of the school, as well as a Health and Safety visit.

It gives me great pleasure that Dave Oldridge, our Local Authority governor has agreed to extend his term of office for another year. Dave is our vice chair and leads the Finance and resources group. At the same time I share the sad news that Katherine Raiseborough has stood down from the Governing Body due to pressure of work and family life. Katherine was our longest standing member of the board, having served for over 7 years with a particular expertise in Health and Safety. She will be greatly missed and I thank her for all she has done for the school.

After a brief time without a caretaker, it has been good to welcome Mr. O'Connor who joined the school staff recently. It's good to employ someone who has a history with the school and holds it in very high regard, as Mr O'Connor's daughter attended our school a few years ago.

From my meetings with Mrs Collier and the very informative newsletters, I know that this has been a very busy and full term, especially with all the health issues that have been around. It was an honour to watch the Nativity play recently where the children performed with great confidence, but more importantly, obvious enjoyment and pride; what a testament to all the hard work that goes on behind the scenes to make these key issues happen.

FOSM continues to work incredibly hard supporting the financial, and also social, side of the school, and a huge vote of thanks go to them for all they do to ensure our children have all the extras, and sometimes the necessary, resources to help their continued learning.

All that remains is for me to thank Mrs Collier and her staff for all that they do to make our school such a happy and thriving school, to thank the Governors for all they do to support Mrs Collier and to give my best wishes to parents and children at this very special time of year.

Wishing each and every one of you a very happy and holy Christmas time and (hopefully) a healthy and prosperous New Year

Angela Scull
Chair of Governors



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