



Jennett's Park CE Primary School

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Letter from Claire Tootill Chair of Governors

15.7.21

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's difficult to believe that we are already at the end of the academic year and yet here we are and so I wanted to take a few moments of your time to give you an update on the year from the Local Governing Body's perspective.

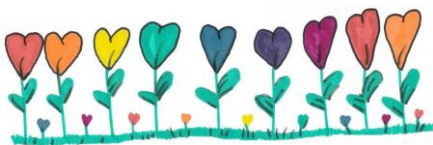
Our role as governors is to provide strategic leadership and accountability in school and we do this through three key functions:

- Overseeing the financial performance of the school to make sure its money is well spent
- Holding Mrs Savage to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils
- Ensuring the clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction of the school.

These three functions have remained at the centre of all our discussions throughout our meetings and visits this year, albeit all virtually, and I am proud to share with you just a few of the highlights we have been able to support the school team with:

- Making sure the well-being of all staff and all pupils remains at the top of everyone's priority list through a variety of means including speaking to staff and children to hear their thoughts.
- Adapting our Nursery offering so that it better meets the needs of our community while still maintaining the incredibly high level of education all the children receive in the provision.
- Working with the Senior Leadership Team to secure the finance that has made the purchase of I-pads to replace the aging laptops possible, allowing the school's exciting vision for IT to take flight.
- Listening and questioning both staff and external parties the curriculum provided to our children to make sure that wherever our children were learning, they were offered a rich and broad curriculum that challenged and stimulated their interest.

I won't pretend it's been easy being a school governor over the past two years, while we are provided with the opportunity to train in a range of subjects, surprisingly governing in a pandemic has never been one offered! This meant that the whole LGB, like everyone, has had to learn and adapt to the very different education landscape Covid has presented us with and I'd therefore like to thank all the governors who have given their time, energy and passion volunteering in this role, especially when they haven't been able to take part in any of the school events or meet any of the children or staff in person, which honestly makes the role so very worthwhile.



I'd also like to offer the hugest of thanks to the whole team at Jennett's Park. It is often quite awe inspiring to hear the level of thought, research, effort and dedication everyone puts in to make sure that every child has the opportunity to flourish and achieve in our school. The work that was done before they welcomed all the children back in September to make sure the children felt safe and welcome in a world of bubbles and talk of being behind was incredible. The time and effort that was put in to developing and constantly adapting our educational and pastoral offering so that whether a child was in school or at home they were supported was amazing. Maintaining a sense of community and providing a range of opportunities for fun, reflection and cultural enrichment while the rules set by the authorities were constantly updated was simply phenomenal.

I'd also like to thank you all, we're very lucky that we get to see the results of the questionnaires and it can be really wonderful to know that you see and recognise the hard work staff have put in, especially on the days when as a governor you've spent far too long looking at risk assessments or the costs attributed to Covid that need to be covered from an already stretched budget! So thank you for supporting our school community.

Finally, as a Trust we are always on the lookout for new governors, these do not need to be parents and in actual fact we'd love to hear from anyone who isn't as an external viewpoint is always very welcome, so should you work with someone or know someone who you know is looking for a volunteering role or who you think would make a great governor please tell them about us! They can contact us by emailing our clerk on the following address

I wish you all a happy and restful summer and will look forward to hopefully seeing you all back in our school in September.

Yours faithfully,

Claire Tootill

Chair of Governors

