

Chair of Governors letter Summer 2021

Dear Families

As I am writing my end of year letter, many of the restrictions arising from the pandemic have been significantly reduced. I sincerely hope that this can be safely achieved, that you can all have an enjoyable summer holiday and that we may be able to return to a more normal situation in the autumn. I am sure that you will agree with me that the school will need to continue to follow guidance from the DfE and WCC on the safety measures that will be needed from September to protect both children and staff. I trust you will continue to cooperate with whatever restrictions are deemed necessary. I am very grateful to you all for your efforts in supporting the education of the children during the lock down periods and in their subsequent return to school. The high attendance rate was particularly pleasing.

You will remember that the initial days after the return were centred on reintegrating the various classes in order that the children were well settled back into their classes and learning could then once again be the focus. Inevitably, the children will on average have made less progress over the year than they would under normal conditions but each child has been assessed individually and, where necessary, appropriate support has been provided. (I am assured by Mrs Moss that the children are resilient and that they will not suffer a long term effect on their education). I am pleased that the aim of providing a broad education has been retained as this is such an integral part of the school's aims.

As part of the aim of ensuring that high standards in all areas are met the Early Years Quality Mark has been revalidated this term, an Arts Mark Gold award received along with a Gilt Science Mark.

I was delighted to see how well the school is operating when I visited recently. The impact of 'bubble' operation is clearly a constraint but within each 'bubble' the teaching and learning was unchanged and the children were, as ever, pleased to interact with a visitor.

I know that you will be well aware how much effort has gone into keeping good contact between the school and families and in keeping as close to the normal operation of the school as has been possible. I believe that the PFTA adaption of the Summer Fair to a multi-site approach was a great way of reducing the size of gatherings but retaining the aim of the event. Similarly, the Blue Class end of year trip to Malvern followed by an overnight stay in the school hall provided the key features of a very important experience and I have thanked all those involved for their efforts. We wish all those families and children who are leaving the very best wishes for the future.

It is clear that this has been an extremely challenging year for all the school staff and at the recent Governor's meeting we once again recorded our thanks to Mrs Moss and all her team for their continuing outstanding efforts to support the children and I am sure you will support this view.

My best wishes to you all.

Hugh Evans

Chair of Governors

