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Headteacher: Mrs J Palmer

25th June 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we start to reach the end of this school year, I thought I would take the opportunity to get in touch and reflect on the year we have had.

Obviously, children, staff and parents have faced unusual situations this year. Children started back at our schools in September having not been in since the previous March, and children and teachers were working in class bubbles. In January we began another lockdown and home learning began again. Even now, our schools are still operating in class bubbles and are not meeting and mingling as whole schools.

The Governing body would like to thank the Federation's staff for the professionalism they have shown in continuing their work in such difficult situations, which for many staff included being in school with the children of key workers. All children and families received calls home from school, and children even received individual feedback for work they had done via their own private and individual channels on Teams. The teachers had worked hard on an improved lockdown provision after the 1st lockdown, and this proved to be successful.

The Governing body, although still not able to go into school physically, continued to meet remotely, and to attend training. This year, we have worked hard creating strategic goals for the federation, which will be used to drive school improvement. As you may know, we welcomed two new parent governors (Victoria Johnson & Jonathon Redhead), and also said goodbye to two governors (Jacqui Whitaker & Andrew Philpott) and we thank them for their service.

As part of effective governance it is recommended that Governing Boards, as well as evaluating themselves regularly, submit themselves to an external review every few years to identify strengths and areas for improvement. I recently asked the Diocese to conduct a 'Review of Governance' which will be completed before the end of term – which we will use to help us improve moving forward. You will receive a formal notification of this from me soon with a link to a parental survey.



We are looking to recruit some new governors for September, and would welcome you spreading the word or passing on the names of colleagues or extended family members who may be interested in serving their community in this way.

Finally, we would like to thank all members of our community who have all faced difficult circumstances this year – and wish you a relaxing summer and, we are hopeful, a more 'normal' school year from September.

Kind Regards,

Justin Wheatley
Chair of Governors