



The Lord God will help me.
Isaiah 50:7



Chair of Governors Newsletter – Spring Term 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

What a difference a week makes! Last Monday our Teachers were preparing classrooms to welcome our children back to school but at 8pm our hopes were dashed with the announcement of a return to home-schooling. Teachers had told me that they had spent the last week of their holiday preparing for face to face teaching and then they were given 13 hours overnight to prepare for on-line lessons. I can only imagine their frustration but as always our amazing Teachers have surpassed all my expectations and have committed to an on-line timetable, far beyond what is expected of them. I know the launch of Microsoft Teams has gone well, with only a few families experiencing difficulties, and I am confident all problems will be resolved. I wish I could help but as many of you know, anything technical is beyond me! I have the utmost admiration for you all and I sincerely hope you are not getting stressed by the current situation. It is paramount that we all stay safe, and home is the safest place. We are truly blessed to have such a close-knit school and we are all here to support you and I know you will all help each other also. The children in school have been split into two bubbles and are also following the on-line provision, within the confines of our Covid Risk Assessment. They are all happy to be in school and have adapted admirably to all the extra protocols we have put in place to keep them safe.

I hope you all had a wonderful break, probably more restful than normal, and managed to keep 'Christ in Christmas'. My highlight was accompanying the Reception children to the Church to perform their Nativity, with Revd Heather narrating; We sang 'Away in a Manger' outside and with the sun shining it was truly magical, just what I needed to remind me of the true meaning of our celebrations. I was also able to watch the live performance of 'The Night Before Christmas' – the Reception children loved it and were very enthusiastic in their socially-distanced participation. It was a fun experience for all the children to end the term and we are grateful to the PTA for sharing the cost.

As always, the Autumn term flew by and seemed to be dominated by on-line meetings; our 'Annual Service of Dedication and Thanksgiving for Diocesan Schools' was zoomed in from Peterborough Cathedral and gave us all the opportunity to meet our new Chair of the Diocesan Board of Education, The Venerable Richard Ormston (Archdeacon of Northampton). Mr Jones and I also had a zoom call with Richard and our Diocesan Director of Education, Peter Cantley; Unsurprisingly, they were both very impressed with Wayne's proactive management style, his dedication to our school and the commitment of all our staff to our children and their families. There were also opportunities for safe interaction. I thoroughly enjoyed my Music lessons with Reception class on a Wednesday afternoon; The children and I had a wonderful time dancing to the music. Governors have continued to fulfil their roles, meeting with Teachers regularly in school or via Zoom. We have been able to hold socially distanced meetings in school and at our meeting in December agreed to purchase an Activall (an interactive wall) and Historical Timeline for the playground – a nice surprise for the children!

I am keeping you all in my prayers and wish you all Happiness and Good Health in this challenging time. When I feel anxious, I comfort myself with this little prayer 'Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in thee'.

My very best wishes to you all!

Amanda de Choisy
Chair of Governors