



Always be thankful.  
1 Thessalonians 5.16



## Chair of Governors Newsletter – Autumn Term 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

I am absolutely delighted to welcome you all to another school year! I am looking forward to doing some Home Visits with Mrs Ettridge today and then spending time in Reception Class every Friday afternoon with our new children; They were all very happy when I popped in on Wednesday and once one child had shown me a 'war wound' they were all telling me about every bump or scrape they have ever had. Luckily, no incidents on their first morning and they were all sharing and playing beautifully.

For the benefit of new Parents, let me introduce myself. On a lovely sunny morning 19 years ago, I walked up the drive for the first time with my twin girls, Serena and Poppy. For my first two years I was a member of the PTA and then when my son, Daniel, started school 2 years later, I also became a Parent Volunteer in Reception Class. I became a Foundation Governor 13 years ago and this will be my 11th year as Chair. As you can probably guess, I am passionate about our school, and it fills me with joy to watch our children flourish and fulfil their potential every day.

I know a common misconception is that Teachers have had a long holiday but, as always, everyone has been busy in school preparing for the start of term. All classrooms are looking very clean and tidy, after Mrs Brown has worked her magic and Teachers have taken the opportunity to declutter. Mr Jones has been busy working with all stakeholders on our School Development Plan and reviewing & rewriting policies to ensure we meet all our statutory obligations. Mrs Ettridge has been devoting time to our SIAMS Self Evaluation and our upcoming Ethos project, with the focus on our SIAMS development point - *'To develop pupils' awareness of Christianity as a global, multi-cultural world faith.'* We are planning a very exciting day for all the children on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November. However, the highlight of the term will be a visit from Bishop Debbie to present our Church School Excellence Award, in recognition of the standard we achieved in our SIAMS inspection and how well our theologically rooted Christian Vision is at the heart of everything we do in our school.

We are a nurturing school with close links to our community where all are inspired to achieve their best. The school provides education of the highest quality; our children embrace every opportunity, enabling all to flourish.

Everyone is valued and loved for their individual worth; we are inspired by Matthew's gospel, to 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' All develop mutual respect based on compassion, honesty and trust.

**"Love your neighbour as yourself." (Matthew)**

Every year Governors award those children who have consistently demonstrated our Values throughout the year and at our Leavers' Assembly in July the following children were presented with a certificate and voucher: Emi for Love, Zach for Compassion, Kate for Respect, Esmee for Courage. The very special Bishop's Award was presented to Isla Smith and the winner of Eve's Art Prize was Kieran. Congratulations to all these very worthy children!

I wish you all a Very Happy, Healthy and Successful School Year!

Amanda de Choisy