



Always be thankful.
1 Thessalonians 5.16



Chair of Governors Newsletter – Autumn Term 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

I am absolutely delighted to welcome you all to another school year! I had a sneaky spa break last week and didn't get in to school until Friday afternoon and, not surprisingly, everyone looked as if they had never been away; Even our new Reception children were getting ready to go home as if they had been following our school routines and rules for weeks. I am looking forward to seeing more of our new children next week and always value the time I spend in Reception class on a Friday afternoon with Mrs Ettridge. I will also be spending time in Year 3/4 on a Wednesday afternoon with Mr Jones and am excited to be joining in with the children's learning on Judaism.

For the benefit of new Parents, let me introduce myself and for those of you who know me well, skip the next paragraph. On a beautiful sunny morning 17 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 11 years ago and this will be my ninth 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. KS1 toilets have been totally refurbished and redecorated - I'm sure the children love the touch of lime green as much as I do! 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 Wellbeing. I hope you have all enjoyed compiling your ideas onto a page of A4 - I can't believe we are going to publish our very own book with a launch in time for Christmas! We are very lucky to have the support of Mrs Ettridge and blessed to be part of such a nurturing Church school, with our Christian values at the heart of everything we do.

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: Isaac for Love, Lilly for Compassion, Emmy for Respect, Emily for Courage. The very special Bishop's Award was presented to Gabby and the winner of Eve's Art Prize was Annabelle. Congratulations to all these very worthy children!

Our Value this term is Thankfulness and I would like to thank you All for your continued support; all Staff for their dedication and Governors for their commitment to our school. A Parent Governor position will be coming up this year, so please consider this opportunity of further supporting our school.

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

Amanda de Choisy
Chair of Governors