



Governor Newsletter July 2020

Together we Inspire, Aspire and Achieve

As the summer holidays draw near it is time to reflect on the past year. The last 4 months have been very difficult for all of us. The governors' thoughts have very much been with the staff, children and families involved in the school. You have all faced enormous challenges. Children have been missing their friends and the routines and structures school brings them and parents have had the worry of keeping their children safe. Staff have been working tirelessly to facilitate learning at home, support families and then ensure the safe return to school for some groups. Governors would like to take this opportunity to express their heartfelt thanks to the staff team and to parents and carers for following the guidelines school has issued. Rest assured the Governing Body have worked with Mr Hingley and the leadership team throughout with the Chair in regular contact to offer support and reassurance. We have continued to fulfil our strategic duties through virtual meetings. This collaborative working will continue as the school puts plans in place for September.

In looking back over the year despite the challenges of the last few months there have been some notable successes.

We have maintained a stable staff throughout the year ensuring continuity for the children's learning

We appointed a substantive Headteacher following the departure of Mrs Marsh and subsequently appointed a substantive Deputy headteacher. We look forward to welcoming Lorraine Machinguata in September and working with her.

Improvements have been made to the Reception outdoor learning area with a new surface and canopy. You will be aware that work has begun on the area outside the dining hall. The overgrown bank has been removed and a covered multifunctional area is being developed. This will extend the playground provision providing a quiet area for the children. We are all very excited that this project is finally underway.

A visit from Ofsted had been expected this term however inspections were halted as the country went into lockdown and there will be no full inspections before January 2021. However in February we engaged an educational consultant who is also an Ofsted inspector to undertake a review of the school's provision and performance. Having had involvement with the school previously he was extremely complimentary about the progress that had been made.

'Leaders now run a happy and caring school' 'Leaders' expectations of pupils are much higher than ever before. All staff now work together towards the same aim; to provide an exceptional education.'
'Hannah Ball has improved significantly over the past year and across a range of subjects, pupils' achievement is now good.'
Pupils 'attitudes are highly positive Classrooms are calm and orderly places where pupils and teachers focus on learning without disruption.'

Finally

The Governing Body would like to echo Mr Hingley's words and thank Mrs Harbord for all her hard work over the past 4 years and for the huge contribution she has made to the improvements we have seen at Hannah Ball. We wish her good luck for the future. We will all miss her.

Also best of luck to Year 6 pupils as they leave Hannah Ball. We are looking forward to welcoming everyone else back to school in September.

Stay safe everyone.

Best wishes

Sue Huntley and all the governors.