



Corvedale CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr. J. Brough
Chair of Governors: Mr. D. Hedgley

28 March 2018

Dear Parents

This term the Governing Body have held one Full Governors Meeting and two Standards Committee and two Resources Committee meetings. As part of the continuous monitoring process the Governors reviewed the state of the school using the four main Ofsted headings.

Leadership and management is a major area of Governor influence and we have spent time identifying the school's strengths and weaknesses through surveys, data assessments, external reports and discussions which link into the rolling 5 year Strategic Planning Document and School Development Plan 2017-18. More specifically:

- We are continuing to work with Corvedale Centre for Children (CCfC) over its long term relationship with the school.
- After long consideration, which we have previously kept parents informed about, we have now registered an interest with the Department for Education in becoming an academy. We have approached the Bishop Anthony Educational Trust with a view to achieving academy status within their organisation after further consultation with all parties including parents. Letters outlining our reasons for this and highlighting "frequently asked questions" will be sent out after Easter along with a date for a parental meeting.
- We have continued to liaise with the Village Hall Committee over long term parking issues and the agreed joint approach to this to improve pedestrian safety and maximise sensible parking is being further developed. This includes addressing the deteriorating tarmac approaches to the school and the village hall.
- A rolling programme of building maintenance is in place and further refurbishment of the kitchen is planned.
- We have a new school cook, Heather Meyrick and a new kitchen assistant, Adelaide Friswell.
- Our School Improvement Advisor's Report (SIA) was again supportive of our work.

Within **teaching, learning and assessment** we identified the potential problem in Years 4/5/6 over pupil numbers. The extra teaching staff we have employed so that the group could be split into two smaller classes is working well according to pupil, parental and staff feedback. This builds on the foundations provided last year with extra staffing. The rolling programme of reviewing all subject areas performance with link governors has been continued.

Within **personal development, behaviour and welfare** our pupil numbers have remained steady with our intake next year reflecting this. Attendance figures in all groups are good despite the illness bugs we've suffered. Behaviour data remains good. A comprehensive review of how we spend

our Sports Premium money has been undertaken with the aim of promoting healthier life styles and participation in exercise.

In the important area of **Outcomes** we are working towards maintaining the School Improvement Advisor's (SIA) summary of the 2017 data that supported a judgement of Good. Overall the SIA Report recorded the school as Good in all of the 4 Ofsted categories mentioned above. The termly Headteacher's report, continued SIA monitoring and training on the Analysis of Schools Performance national data are all used to identify areas that need strengthening. The Governors remain committed to driving the school forward and to backing the staff in their day-to-day operations to deliver our long term strategic vision to help all our pupils to "love learning and love life" in a school environment that is safe and sustainable. We welcome any feedback from parents about our work.

It only remains to thank you for your continued support of the school and for us to thank all the staff for their continued hard work, commitment and for the positive cheerful outlook they bring to the school. Again, a big thanks to SOCS for all they do and a strong plea to support them fully as the extra funds they raise make a big difference in these difficult financial times.

We, like you and the pupils, are sorry for the disruption caused by the snow recently but fully support the Headteacher in the difficult decisions he made in the best interest of everyone, to close the school. The sight of him in his own time clearing the snow away and walking to school to check the site's viability shows his commitment. Have a hopefully snow free good Easter.

D. Hedgley on behalf of the Governing Body