

Corvedale CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr. J. Brough

Chair of Governors: Mr. D. Hedgley

20th December 2018

Dear Parents

The annual governors' meeting was held on November 13th. David Hedgley and Anson Crouch remained respectively as Chair and Vice Chair of Governors, both until November 2019. Robin Edwards' term of office has finished but the Governing Body has decided not to fill this vacancy at present. Matthew Jones' period of office has ended and due to other commitments he is standing down as a Parent Governor. We would like to thank him for the time and effort he has put in. There will be a vacancy for a Parent Governor which will be advertised in the New Year.

As part of Ofsted's audit process the Governors reviewed the state of the school using the four main Ofsted headings to produce a Governor Impact Statement. This is attached for your convenience as well as being placed on the website.

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 the School Improvement Plan for 2018-19. As can be seen in the Impact Statement both the Local Authority and Ofsted thought that our leadership was good. The main challenge this coming year will be seeing through our application for academy status within the Bishop Anthony Educational Trust (BAET). Part of that process will be to plan for a balanced budget over the next three years whilst maintaining the effective class structure we have in place. We are aware of the state of the tarmac as you approach the school and we are working with Diddlebury Village Hall and Diddlebury Parish Council to try and get this repaired and improved.

Within teaching, learning and assessment we again identified the potential problem with pupil numbers in Years 4/5/6 and have continued to employ extra teaching staff so that the group can be split into smaller classes. This has worked well and seen a very positive improvement in results. The parental survey on a 94% return again saw 100% of parents responding that their child is taught well and making good progress and 100% describing the school as excellent or good. Thank you for your additional comments we have made note of the points for improvement.

Within personal development, behaviour and welfare Ofsted stated that "the leadership team has ensured that all safeguarding arrangements are fit for purpose." Behaviour and motivation to learn was seen as good by Ofsted which is again reflected in the parental survey. A full analysis of the parental survey will be placed on the school website after it has been presented to Governors in January. Attendance remains above national figures.

In the important area of Outcomes in May 2018 Ofsted rated the school as “continuing to be Good”. It remains a school needing only low level support from the Local Authority. The KS2 official Government School Dashboard showed that we are in line with National figures in all areas. Most pleasing of all, within the published performance tables for Shropshire, we were 2nd out of 168 schools for progress scores based on reading results at KS2. This is a tremendous result and is a huge endorsement of the actions put in place by the leadership team and the hard work and expertise of the schools staff. A big thanks must be given here to SOCS who purchased the Accelerated Reading Programme which played a big part in this success. That is not to say that we can rest on our laurels as there are areas that we need to work on as identified in the School Improvement Plan, a copy of this will be placed on the website.

The Governors remain committed to driving the school forward and in backing the staff in their day-to-day operations to deliver our long term strategic vision which is to help all our pupils to “love learning and love life” in a school environment that is safe and sustainable.

Again a big thanks to SOCS for all they do and a strong plea to support them fully as the extra funds they raise does make a big difference. We would also like to thank and recognise the financial support we receive from the Millichope Foundation which directly supports through its music grant the excellent singing performances the choir has presented lately under the superb direction of Mr Bennett.

It only remains to thank you all for your continued support of the school and for us as Governors to thank all the staff for their continued hard work, commitment and for the positive cheerful outlook they bring to the school.

Please don't hesitate to promote the school when and wherever you can as maintaining and gaining pupil numbers is crucial especially in budget terms and you are our best ambassadors.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

D. Hedgley on behalf of the Governing Body