



Corvedale CE Primary School & Nursery

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Chair of Governors: Mr D. Hedgley

31/03/23

Governor's End of Term letter Easter 2023

Dear Parents,

The Governing Body is continuing to plan for increased financial demands including possible increased staffing costs. Our budget predictions look fine for next year but our falling pupil numbers with twelve Year 6 leaving this summer and a smaller intake into reception in September means that unless we increase pupil numbers careful planning will be needed for future years. As I've said before your exceedingly good parent questionnaire comments about the school need sharing by you with friends outside of our normal catchment area. On a positive note our nursery numbers are growing steadily and along with the new successful baby and toddler group bode well for future intakes. Feedback from parents on both these groups is good.

The settled period of normal attendance patterns which we hoped for to allow us to more fully develop the children's planned learning experiences and allow all aspects of school life to return to normal has been slightly impacted upon by snow closures and industrial action. The school provided childcare support during the strikes thanks to the goodwill of the staff.

The impact of COVID is still being addressed within the school's recovery programme and the continued emotional wellbeing of the children is being monitored. I'm sure that some of you will have read recent articles reflecting the effects of this on national school attendance figures and children lost to learning. I'm pleased to say our attendance figures remain good between 95-96% . The effects of COVID did impact on the planned learning programmes that had been put in place to allow us to address some areas such as writing skills which need strengthening and these remain ongoing.

The whole Governing Body undertook a review of "The Governors Role in School Performance" led by our very experienced school clerk which reassuringly showed that we were fulfilling our review of the overall school performance rigorously. This confirmed the previous positive Local Authorities audit findings of the Governing Bodies actions. The Governing Body is still short of a Foundation Governor but hopefully this post looks like being filled shortly. On the topic of Ofsted we are due an inspection and we are preparing the school in a positive way to receive this. The school website is being continually updated and checked but we would welcome any feedback from you about it.

Again thanks especially to all the school staff, volunteers, and governors for all the hard work and dedication they put into making the school a successful and happy place for the children. Finally thank you to members of the SOCS committee and the Millichope Foundation for their fund raising and donations without which the school could not provide the quality of education for your child that we do.

Have a good Easter holidays.

Chair of Governors on behalf of the Governing Body.

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