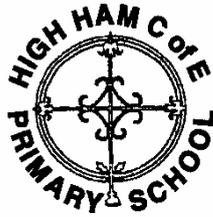


# High Ham Church of England Primary School

High Ham  
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## Headteacher:

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Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you and your families are safe and well and looking forward to the Christmas break as we reach the end of yet another very challenging term for our school community in what has been a very strange and difficult period for everyone across the globe since the start of the pandemic.

School life this year has been a real test for everyone associated with our school and I think we can all be justifiably proud as to how our children, staff, parents/carers and governors have responded due to the circumstances that have prevailed. To have been able to deliver any form of education to our children these last 9-months, albeit with very different arrangements in place, is remarkable particularly with all the necessary emphasis on, and adherence to, social distancing requirements and a long period when the majority of children were not attending school. Sincere thanks to each and every one of you for making this possible.

Governance Board activity, of course, never stopped with adjustments introduced as well to the way we undertook our obligations to the school. I have lost count of the number of virtual meetings that have taken place and I am really pleased that the strong focus the Board has been able to maintain on its key responsibilities has continued throughout with full Board meetings, Curriculum/Monitoring and Business Team meetings, along with SIAMS needs, all going ahead as planned and update training (virtual) taking place.

The Board met on 23 November to cover Curriculum/Monitoring needs with governors reporting on meetings held with class teachers and members of staff who have curriculum lead responsibilities. Additionally, school data was covered by the 'Data Working Group' who report to the Board.

A full Board meeting took place on 7 December at which an update from myself was provided as a result of attending 'Somerset Area Chairs Meetings', Correspondence received, Headteacher's Report, Policy updates and approval, Clerk to the Board updates following 'Somerset Area Clerk's Meetings', Diocese matters, Reports from other groups and finally, Health and Safety and Premises matters being addressed. Alongside all these areas being covered, the Pay Committee met before the full Board meeting. So, as you will appreciate, a very busy time for all Board members over recent weeks as well.

On top of this, we were also able to undertake a Parent Governor election fairly recently leading to the reappointment of Nicky Gundry. I would take this opportunity to thank all parents who participated in this election, it was, by far, the best supported parent governor election we have had in a very long time so, again, many thanks for all those who voted and congratulations to Nicky on her reappointment.



Well, that's about it from me. Many thanks, once again, to everyone associated with our school for your continued support and I sincerely hope you have the best possible Christmas with your families. I hope we can all look forward to happier and more positive times ahead.

Kind Regards,

Chris Palmer  
Chair of Governance Board

