

# High Ham Church of England Primary School

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Friday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2021

## **RE: Chair of Governance Board Update**

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you and your families are safe and well. As two meetings of the Governance Board have taken place following the return from the half-term break I am taking this opportunity to provide an update.

Weekly catch-up meetings continue to take place involving Mrs Rosser, Mrs Roy (Vice Chair) and myself to monitor progress and address any needs that have to be met. These catch-ups are now a mixture of both virtual and face to face meetings now that the restrictions have eased allowing visits to school following the guidance in place. I must say it has been wonderful to be in school again after all this time to see the children at work/play and the members of staff that support them.

The Board had two meetings (virtual) on 7 June, one in the afternoon involving the Business Team members and a full meeting in the evening to cover Curriculum/Monitoring needs. The full meeting provided governors the opportunity to report 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 their findings to the Board.

The Business Team meeting followed a standing agenda with much emphasis placed on the key areas of finance, staffing, premises and health and safety. I am currently liaising with our appointed Area Building Surveyor about potential improvements/replacements to some of our existing facilities such as the toilets in the main school and our oldest outside classroom (Maple) which I believe needs to be replaced. Whilst I cannot guarantee the potential outcomes at this time, I will do my utmost, on behalf of the Board, to see these improvements delivered for the benefit of our children. Additionally, work is in progress for the replacement of the wooden shelter at the bottom of the steps to the field which offers an outside teaching area and gathering point for children during play periods. So, watch this space and I will keep you posted!

It was very pleasing to note at the Curriculum/Monitoring meeting that, despite the pandemic conditions in place, there was much to celebrate across the Key Stages in terms of the progress the children are making with much evidence to confirm that our teachers have done our children, and themselves, proud during the challenging times faced since March last year. There is also a strong correlation between the curriculum



plans and the actual delivery in the classroom via the Twitter feeds. There is also, of course, the need to acknowledge, once again, the part you have played in supporting your children and members of staff throughout this period as well so many thanks for your collective efforts in this.

I would also take this opportunity to thank all those parents who have volunteered to take part in the traffic management working group that is being undertaken in partnership with High Ham Parish Council. Hopefully, potential improvements to the way drop off, pick up and parking arrangements are managed will provide additional safeguards for our whole school community in the future.

Many thanks, once again, to everyone associated with our school for your continued support.

Kind Regards,

Chris Palmer  
Chair of Governance Board

