



News from the Governors - March 2021

We would like to welcome back all those returning to the school and preschool following the latest lockdown. All staff in the school, have, in these difficult times, worked extremely hard to provide a safe environment for everyone. As well as thanking them for this, we would also like to thank all parents for their assistance in making sure the new procedures run smoothly. A warm welcome also to the new parents of pupils, who have joined the school this term.

FOBS

It has been a difficult time especially as a number of the usual forms of fundraising such as Christmas Fayre and Cake Days can not take place at present. The committee have come up with a number of innovative ideas which are detailed in their recent excellent newsletter.

This can be found at: <https://sway.office.com/47saQ2HQpqTP1oXo>

We would urge all parents who have not already read this to do so, and to get involved. Remember every penny goes towards the school and preschool. In particular the use of Amazon Smile which is free and donates money to FOBS for every Amazon purchase.

Governor Activity

We are delighted to inform you that Stephen Morgan has recently joined the governing board as a parent governor. This means we have a full complement of 12 governors for the first time in a long while. This reflects very positively on the school and shows the commitment of parents and members of the local community to giving our children the best possible environments in which to start their education.

What have Governors been doing since the First Lockdown?

We have continued to meet, using the Zoom application, and although unable to visit the school, have maintained a strategic overview, observed from a distance, and checked all new and amended procedures. Our discussions confirm that teachers are ensuring that the curriculum continues to be broad and engaging. It's great that the school works with other organisations in the

community such as Bishopsteignton Heritage. It was fascinating to read the children's views of their lockdown experiences.

Our wellbeing governor was pleased to feedback that despite the challenging circumstances we are all coping with, the teachers continue to feel positive. This is a credit to you, the schools' leadership and the professional but supportive, caring relationships among the staff.

External monitoring of the school acknowledged all that the school was doing to support pupils during lockdown. The External advisor also thought that the school website was providing good information to parents.

Preschool

The pre-school has continued to flourish and the number of children attending has increased. There are still vacancies for most sessions for the summer term and next year. Yeash Burkill continues to lead her fantastic team and is supported by Lyn Jolly. Lyn and Yeash work together to further improve consistencies in practice and the transition process of children moving to the school in September.

Lockdown Remote Learning Survey

The teachers worked hard to embrace this new way of working and it's a credit to them and to you and your children's engagement with it, that the survey was so positive. The survey had a good response and showed a high level of satisfaction with the material provided by the school. There were a few suggestions for improvement which the school have, where appropriate, taken onboard should future Remote Learning be required.

Pupil feedback shows that those who were not attending school, appreciated the contact with their teachers, both from video lessons and the ability to submit work which received quick teacher feedback.

We hope that you all enjoy the spring holiday and would like to wish you all a happy Easter.

Governor contacts

Should you wish to contact the governors please e mail any of the following:-

Carol Roberts: chair@bishopschool.co.uk

Carol Jones: mrsjonesgov@bishopschool.co.uk

Dave Boobyer: mrboobyergov@bishopschool.co.uk

Dave Boobyer - Communications Governor

SCHOOL GOVERNORS

CHAIR OF GOVERNORS: Carol Roberts, Local Authority Governor

CO-OPTED GOVERNORS: David Lamboll | Carol Jones | Graham Hooker | Dave Boobyer | Sarah Irvine

PARENT GOVERNORS: Paul Zaleski | Louis Hamston | Faye Robertson | Stephen Morgan

STAFF: Emma Leballeur (Staff Governor) Dave Killoran (Headteacher) | Geoff Jones (Clerk)