



### Dear Parents and Children,

I hope everyone has enjoyed the first half of Term. Owls spent an amazing week at Skern Lodge and there has been some fantastic learning taking place around the topic of Kings and Queens.

I would like welcome any families who are joining us this term and wish you a very happy time at Beaford School.

### Beaford Board of Governors

The Governing Body brings together parents, teaching staff and representatives from the local community whose purpose is to oversee the strategic running of the School. Governors have different roles pertaining to their particular areas of interest and expertise:-

### Governors Roles & Responsibilities

**Chair of Governors – Alison Bennett**

**Vice Chair of Governors – Jeffers Mayo**

### Pupil achievement:

- Data and school improvement – Alison Bennett, Jeffers Mayo, Alex Heal
- Parent engagement/cohesion – Katie Cross
- SEND, Gifted & Talented, Children in Care – Katie Cross

### Teaching:

- Curriculum – Alison Bennett, Sam Doidge
- EYFS – Alison Bennett, Sam Doidge

### Behaviour and safety:

- Health & Safety , security – Mark Bowen
- Attendance & behaviour – Jeffers Mayo
- Child protection, health and wellbeing – Jeffers Mayo

### Finance, premises & personnel Committee:

Mark Bowen (Chair) , Sam Doidge & Alex Heal

**Pupil discipline:** Mark Bowen, Jeffers Mayo, Alison Bennett

### Staff pay, discipline & capability:

- **1<sup>st</sup> committee** – Alison Bennett, Mark Bowen, Jeffers Mayo,
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Committee** – Katie Cross, Sam Doidge, Alex Heal

### New Governor

This term we are very pleased to welcome Alex Heal onto the Board. Alex is parent Governor, so many of you will know her already.

### PTA – by Sam Doidge

In my first year as Governor and my son's first year in Reception, I have had the pleasure of attending several events organised by our new PTA. This has including a tea party held at short notice for the disaster in Nepal, the Summer Fete, again last minute when weather rained us out the first week!! All involved in the PTA work tirelessly behind the scenes to raise funds not only for worthy charities, but most importantly for our school. Beaford PTA subsidise many events, outings and school equipment throughout the school year. So as we go forward into another school year, I hope to see you all at events at the school, some organised by the PTA, and join with me in supporting Beaford School alongside the PTA - a fab team!

### School Grounds Update – by Mark Bowen

After successfully completing the first phase of the school grounds project, which included removing the old trim trail, new tarmac areas and re levelling areas to make the whole site accessible and easy to maintain, we are now in a position to start phase 2.

We have secured a £10,000 lottery grant along with a number of other donations including money raised by the PTA and the Children's Council from a toy sale and sponsored events.

Following a big input from all the children, phase 2 will include a concrete path which will meander around the perimeter of the field, starting at the foundation unit end of the playground and re-joining at the back of the mound. There will be a solar powered stop watch mounted at one end. This will allow all year access for the children both on foot and with wheeled toys.

For the younger children there will be low level climbing equipment situated close to the Foundation unit garden. At the other end of the playground there will be a range of equipment to include triple tumble bars, a raised tunnel, monkey bars, stepping logs, balance beam and tree traverse.

All equipment will be made from hard wearing, low maintenance re-cycled plastic, which will have a much longer life than the previous timber trim trail. Work will be completed by the middle of January.



### School Improvement Priorities

We pride ourselves at Beaford for consistently moving forwards and progressing the way in which the School provides education.

This is the time of year when we set the goals that we would like to achieve throughout the coming year. These are laid out in the School Improvement Plan as follows:

#### Priority 1

Secure excellent **Teaching and Learning** through:

Professional Learning and development that focuses on:

- Exploring the 'shape of Learning' over a lesson and how this impacts on both individuals and groups of learners
- Providing rich opportunities for children to direct and own learning
- Developing strategies to ensure that in all areas of the curriculum children take ownership of their feedback

#### Priority 2

Strengthen further the effectiveness of **Leadership and Management** by:

- Subject leader teams continuing to develop their roles and strengthen their understanding of achievement in non-core subjects
- Extending the role of the INCO Team
- Senior leaders broadening their experience and skills through effectively supporting leaders in other schools
- All governors effectively supporting and challenging the performance of the school

#### Priority 3

To continue to build and design an excellent **Curriculum** that promotes depth of learning and opportunities for all pupils:

- Extend provision and opportunities for pupils' learning in Computing and Scientific Enquiry
- Embed robust Assessment practice in non-core subjects through the use of effective elicitation tasks
- Development of the school grounds reflecting the Early Years six areas of space

#### Priority 4

To develop effective school **partnerships** that:

- Offer challenge and support to the school
- Impact on school improvement and contribute to raising standards and achievement for all pupils learning.

#### Governors Monitoring Activities for Autumn Term

Governors are actively involved with monitoring activities through visiting the school and observing, talking to staff and children and looking at children's work. This provides us with evidence that the School Priorities are being met.

- School Improvement Team – 2 monitoring visits in October and December, one focusing on reading and the other on computing and science
- SEN Audit and monitoring visit – November
- Safeguarding Audit and monitoring visit – November
- School Improvement Team data and action plan review - December

If you have any questions for Governors about the work that we do, or are interested in possibly joining the Board please talk to Mrs Wright in the office.

Wishing you an enjoyable and relaxing half term break!

**With kind regards from Alison Bennett and the Board of Governors**