



Sarum St Paul's Church of England Primary School

"Loving to learn as we build friendship and faith"

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Dear Parents/Carers and Staff,

Well, the end of term is here and what a term it has been. From returning to school to new look fencing and playground drainage in September - fingers crossed no more "SSP Lake" - to enjoying our newly relaunched website, and pausing, amid the busyness, to experience a moment's calm in Wellbeing week, it has been an exciting start to a new academic year and we thank everyone involved very much indeed.

As governors, we would like to update you about some of the work we have been undertaking in a rather more behind-the-scenes way ...

The governing body said goodbye and thank you to two very experienced and committed governors, Volker Buck and Gill Hunter, who brought so much to the school and had real impact in their roles. Into their shoes step our new parent governor Kate Taylor and our new foundation governor Peter Hime, both of whom have got stuck straight into their respective committee and link subject areas of responsibility.

Governing body membership was further settled following a parent governor election earlier this month, and we congratulate Finance Chair Chris Houghton on his re-election. We would like to thank you all for casting your votes and supporting the school, your participation is greatly appreciated.

Myself and Doug Imeson were also re-appointed as chair and vice-chair respectively and are delighted to be playing a continuing part in helping drive forward the school's strategic plans and ensuring best outcomes for all pupils.

Statutory responsibilities undertaken this term have included completing the 2017/18 staff performance management cycle and getting the 2018/19 round under way. We are also in the process of reviewing our Admissions Arrangements to ensure these meet our obligations to serve the community, as well as actioning our safeguarding and child protection responsibilities. Financial monitoring is undertaken on an ongoing basis.

A good chunk of work is happening around preparing for SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools). This is an inspection which happens in addition to the Ofsted inspection and grades the impact of a Church school's Christian vision and ethos on its community. Inspections happen within five years and as SSP was last inspected in March 2014, we are gearing up to go again.

So much to say, but probably no-one has time to read more than a side of A4, especially at this time of year! On behalf of the governors, we just wanted to extend a particular and very warm welcome to all families new to our school this year - we hope you are finding it a "vibrant and creative" place to be (please see Our Ethos) and look forward to getting to know you better!

Wishing you all the very best the season has to offer, and with thanks.

Alex Cornelius

Chair of Governors