



Corvedale CE Primary School & Nursery

Diddlebury, Craven Arms, Shropshire. SY7 9DH

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Headteacher: Mr. J. Brough
Chair of Governors: Mr D. Hedgley

20th December 2023

Governor's End of Term letter Christmas 2023

Dear Parents,

This term has proved to be a much more settled one and with the end of term festivities, a much more enjoyable one. As I said in your summer letter, it was very pleasing that our children did so well in both the KS1 and KS2 tests achieving above national average in EYFS results, in line with national results at KS1 and in line with national results for reading, writing and maths at KS2 and above when adjusted for English as an additional language. In addition, our in-house testing has shown that our children have responded to our planned recovery programme well and we now need to continue to build on this. Measures have been put in place through the School Development Plan for 2023-24 that allow us to meet needs identified in the school's Self Evaluation Plan to continue to improve, broaden and develop all aspects of the school, but especially children's learning and progress.

The recent Parent Questionnaire Survey was again very positive with 97% of our parents who would recommended our school to other parents and feel that it is a safe and happy place to learn and 100% endorsing that their children are making good progress along with 97% believing that good behaviour is promoted from a return of 83% family questionnaires. Homework still remains an area to look at with opinions divided over to little or to much. The variety of extra-curricular activities was also mentioned and needs looking at along with the people/resources needed to deliver it. Activities other than sport such as cookery, drama or art and craft and activities for the younger children were promoted. We would always welcome volunteers to help with this. The full questionnaire analysis along with the Governors Impact Statement for November 2022 to November 2023 will be placed on the web site.

The Governor Impact statement highlights what the Governors have done over the last 12 months. David Hedgley will remain as Chair of Governors but Anson Crouch has stood down as vice Chair to be replaced by Richard Coleman. Anson has also stood down as Chair of the Resources Committee and Russell Simm has taken his place. We would like to thank Anson for all his hard work in these posts over many years.

The Governing Body is still short of Foundation Governors and if anyone knows of a suitable person, please contact school with their link. Similarly, we are still seeking a replacement Parent Governor for Heather Southall who, because she works in the school, is no longer able to stand as a Parent Governor. Heather has kindly agreed to remain with us as an Associate Governor. Nicky Fuller has also moved to being an Associate Governor from being a Foundation governor. Both were too valuable to lose from the Governing body.

The school was approached by Diddlebury Parish Council to see if we could make our play area available to local children outside of school hours. The provision of the safeguarding fencing had isolated the play area which had originally been a joint village hall/school project intended to be

available to all. The Head teacher and Governors agreed to explore this and a plan funded by the Parish Council has been devised by moving the security fencing which would preserve the integrity of the school site during school hours but which would also allow local children to access the site out of school hours. The play ground is already accessible out of school hours. As a bonus it was agreed to provide an all weather surface again provided by the parish council out of its infrastructure levy neighbourhood funds. This will greatly benefit our children in wet muddy weather. We also hope to instal one further piece of equipment if practicable.

We are still awaiting the arrival of Ofsted which we had expected this term. Hopefully, the positive results we have had and the good comments from outside agencies along with your very positive Parent Questionnaire comments will stand us in good stead. Your comments on Parent voice when Ofsted do come will be very important so, please do respond when asked too.

As parents you can also help us to grow the schools' numbers by wherever possible promoting the school to your friends and colleagues especially on social media. This is already paying off with the healthy growth in nursery numbers we are experiencing. They are vital to the schools' future.

On a personal note, I would like to thank the Governors for the unstinting work they've put in over the last year and the continued work of Corvedale School Association (CSA) and the Millichope Foundation in providing much needed extra financial support. It goes without saying that the work and dedication of all the school staff is really appreciated and reflected in parent's questionnaire responses.

Have a good Christmas and Happy New Year and keep safe and well.

Dave Hedgley

Chair of Governors on behalf of the Governing Body.