



## Governors Newsletter July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing on behalf of the Governing Body to update you with what has been happening at Southway since our last newsletter.

### **Thank You**

We would like to thank everyone in our school community for their continued hard work, patience and flexibility in dealing with the Covid restrictions over the past year. We are delighted that the whole school were able to get back to learning face to face. The sounds and sights of happy children and staff has been heartwarming and it is such a relief to be back to familiar routines and teaching in person. Thank you in particular to all the staff involved in enabling this to happen smoothly and safely. We know that there has been an incredible amount of work happening behind the scenes to ensure a seamless return to school.

### **Buildings and Premises**

We have continued to make alterations around the school grounds and buildings to increase the safety, functionality and aesthetics of the premises. You may have noticed the new driveway design, which has recently been completed. This has created a safer area for everyone using it and also features our school logo. The surrounding fencing has also been finished, which looks smart and keeps our children and staff safe.



The Year 3 roof has been improved, the decorators have been in and painted lots of areas around the school. New ceilings in the Year 5 toilets have also been installed.



We have also had delivery and installation of some new cardboard sculptures, which enhance the school environment, alongside some more stunning murals. We are so proud of how our school looks and know that it makes a positive impact on our pupils learning.

*Learning and achieving together*





Headteacher: Mr P Newbold

## **Staff**

We would like to thank Mrs Denison, Miss Mudford, Miss Shaw and Mrs West for all of their hard work and wish them the best of luck as they leave Southway and head off to new pastures. We will be welcoming Ms Imray and Miss Woolley as recently appointed teaching assistants and look forward to them joining the team and welcome back Miss Bowers from maternity leave. We would also like to congratulate Mr Blanchard, Miss Bailey and Miss Whitman who have recently been appointed Assistant Headteachers and Miss Risby as our new English Leader and member of the Senior Leadership team. Miss Nicholson is our new SENDCo. We wish them all the best of luck in their new roles and they have our full support.



RSHE teaching. As a governing body, we have been part of the consultation process in setting this up and will be continuing to monitor this. I'm sure you can all agree that it has been amazing watching our children go away on school trips and residential! The amount of effort from our staff in order to enable these trips has been incredible. Seeing photos from the trips has been heartwarming...so many smiling faces, so many memories being made and experiences being had...thank you to everyone involved in making these happen. After all of the uncertainties of the past year, this has brought so much joy to our children and staff.

## **Governors**

We have continued to meet virtually throughout the past few months and regularly carry out virtual monitoring visits to provide support for our staff and help with the strategic work of our school.

## **Curriculum and Activities**

It has been wonderful having the whole school back. The children have had as varied a curriculum as is currently possible. They have been so lucky with the weather over the past few weeks and have done lots of gardening. We are loving seeing all their efforts come into bloom!

A new part of the curriculum has been the



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## **Support and Guidance**

We are proud to be part of a very supportive and happy school community. As governors, we are involved in the financial and strategic decision making aspects of running the school and are pleased that we are able to release funds to enable special projects to go ahead. The impact of studying in lovely surroundings cannot be underestimated.

We would like to extend our thanks to all of you for continuing to support your children over the past year and for showing your thanks to our wonderful staff.

Thank you also to Mr Newbold and every single staff member for guiding us through another year at Southway. The constant changes and uncertainties have been so tricky to navigate but I'm sure you can agree that they have done a brilliant job of supporting our children.

Stay safe, be kind and take care. Have a lovely summer break and we look forward to seeing you next year...in person!

Kind regards,

Helen Lewis

Vice-Chair of Governors, on behalf of the Governing Body

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