**Governors’ News**

**Spring 1 2022**

I have been asked to contribute to this half term’s governors’ letter and it gives me great pleasure to do so. When asked about the role of governors I am very much reminded, and sorry to those too young to have seen it, of the Monty Python sketch “What did the Romans ever do for us”. The immediate answer was nothing, but then all the things started to be listed and acknowledged, the list became very significant.

The main focus this half term has been on the committees and their roles and responsibilities. The new school building, its construction and fitting out, as well as the staffing structures an enlarged school will require. The school budget is always central to our discussions and the imperative of balancing the books, as is the school retaining our Outstanding Ofsted rating and building on that success.

The most important document we have is the School Development Plan, this lists the school’s priorities and objectives which are then measured against the Self Evaluation appraisal. This is one of the ways the governors measure if the goals we set are being met, and if not what needs to be rectified or amended. To help us this term, for example, the governors conducted an anonymized staff survey, the results of which will be used in formulating the objectives we set the school and to challenge the Head Teacher and senior staff.

Our contribution to the school is not just in meetings; last weekend six governors made up part of the working party clearing the new walkway. The tea and cake made up for the rain and it was good to contribute practically, because along with staff, partners and parents we are all part of the school family.

The Governors are excited with the new half term about the prospect of face to face meetings, regular school visits to see staff and pupils and restarting the Governors Tea parties! (For newer parents, prior to COVID the Governors Tea Parties were a termly event where pupils who had impressed their teachers through behaviour, endeavour, helpfulness etc. were invited to tea with the Governors as an appreciation of their achievements).

Finally, I would like to thank you all for your support and tolerance during what has been some very difficult times. I still get a sense of pride and satisfaction when I visit the school and meet staff and pupils and am minded of the words on Christopher Wren`s plaque in St Paul’s cathedral, “If you would seek my monument, look around you”. Although very often in the background and unseen, the Governors give up a lot of time and work very hard to enable the school to flourish. I hope this update helps explain what we do and try to achieve.

Have an enjoyable and safe half term.

Nigel Stacey

Chair of Governors