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“Live, Love and Learn Together”

17th May 2019

Dear Parents, Carers and Staff

The Interim Academy Board (IAB) which replaces your local governing body, has now been in place for just over 6 months. This letter is to update you on our work and to share with you some of the positive steps the school has made this year.

Whilst our prime focus is school improvement, it is equally important that St Catherine's is a safe place for your children to come to live, love and learn together. Our initial focus has been to review the systems and processes that enable the effective management of the school, not just in relation to teaching and learning, but also with respect to safeguarding including health and safety.

The IAB meet monthly to support and challenge in equal measures the senior leadership team. We receive and monitor a wide range of reports and action plans; a few comments from these I have shared with you below:

- Senior leaders have an accurate view of where the school is and are empowered to make further improvements.
- A culture of accountability is now developing ensuring clarity and clear expectations.
- The school has committed staff who have a positive attitude to working with the acting head teacher.
- The relationship between the school and pre school has been strengthened.
- The new arrangements for dropping off children in the playground is working well .
- Plymouth CAST have agreed to pilot a new website for St Catherine's which will improve the communication of up to date information for parents .

A brief update from the IAB will be included in the school newsletter after our June meeting. We will keep you informed of any other changes as necessary. Further information regarding the work of the IAB is available on the Governor page of the school's website.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely

Teresa Sturtivant  
**Chair of St Catherine's IAB**