



Heene Church of England (Aided) Primary School
'Learning together, loving others, guided by God'

Governors' End of Year Report - July 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

As this academic year draws to a close, it is time for us, as school governors, to provide our annual report to parents.

This has been an exceptionally busy year, as staff and governors have worked hard to respond to the outcomes of the July 2018 Ofsted report. While we are sure you will agree that, at its heart, Heene Primary School remains a caring, nurturing place, we hope that your children feel increasingly challenged to be the very best that they can be. We are confident that all the hard work this year by pupils and their teachers, teaching assistants and school leaders will be reflected in improved assessment outcomes at KS1 and KS2. We are grateful for the dedication and commitment of Jo MacGovern and all the staff at the school. We would particularly like to thank Becky Lynwood for her service to Heene, as she leaves us for pastures new. Thank you too for all the support and encouragement you have provided as parents.



While the focus sometimes appears to be on Reading, Writing and Maths due to the way pupil progress is assessed nationally, our school is committed to delivering a broad and balanced curriculum. Significant work has been done this year to define what success looks like in all subjects. We are sure that you will agree that the topics covered have been delivered in an engaging way, with ample opportunities for pupils to immerse themselves in their learning through enrichment opportunities both within and outside school. Year 5 and 6 have both enjoyed residential trips. Among a wide variety of visits, Year 5 toured London for the day, Year 2 explored Amberley Working Museum and Year 4 discovered more about Romans at Fishbourne Roman Palace.

The school environment has changed in a number of ways this year. The new playground markings have been a real success, with children enjoying the extra opportunities for creative play. The installation of new Clevertouch screens has also received positive feedback from staff and pupils. Equally, the new fencing is much smarter and provides better screening. Finally, the school allotment is now up and running, not least to the generous support of Neil Ambrose, the father of a Y4 pupil.

It has been great to see the new 'Friends of Heene Primary School' really getting off the ground this year and we extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who is involved. Our school's involvement in Worthing Children's Parade was a particular highlight, which we are sure the pupils involved enjoyed immensely.



This year has presented a number of staffing challenges, which the leadership team and governors have had to deal with. We pray that next academic year will be smoother, but when challenges do arise, we strive to find solutions which best meet the needs of the school and its pupils.

There have been several changes to the governing body this year: Peter Parish has moved from Co-Chair to Vice-Chair, Kate Cooper has moved from Vice-Chair to Co-Chair and we have welcomed Peter Kane, Foundation Governor and Rose Ellis, LA Governor. In addition, Sally Pritchard has just been appointed as a Foundation Governor for St Botolph's. We look forward to entering the 2019 – 20 academic year at full strength as a governing body and we will be continuing to work on implementing the minor improvements to governance suggested in our recent External Review of Governance. For example, all governors are now linked to curriculum subjects to enable us to strengthen our understanding of the work of the school and build strong relationships with a greater number of staff.

As we look towards the 2019 – 20 academic year, we will continue our commitment to deliver on our strategic priorities of high expectations for all, maximising resources and maintaining strong links with the community and church. At a time of considerable constraints on school budgets, the effective and creative use of resources looks to be more important than ever.

If you have any queries about or comments the work of the governing body, please contact us via Tara Hunt, Clerk to the Governors (clerk@heeneprimary.co.uk). Having trialled governor clinics, but found them to be poorly attended, we are planning for governors to be available at consultation evenings instead and look forward to seeing some of you over the next academic year.

For those who are leaving us, we pray for your future success and happiness and we wish you all a safe, happy and relaxing summer break.

Kate Cooper and Freda Wimble
Co-Chairs of Governors