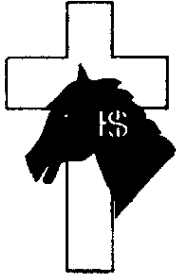


HORSINGTON CHURCH SCHOOL

‘That they may have life, life in all its fullness’ John 10:10



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HEADTEACHER: Mary Alexander.

Friday, 07 January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we are already moving into the second term of this academic year, and starting a new calendar year, let me go back to that eventful first term at Horsington Church School. So much has happened in just three months, with a mixed feeling for things to remain the same and the opportunity to bring changes. It happened at all levels: teaching staff, governors and trustees.

We have sadly said goodbye to a few staff members and happily welcome some new ones who are bringing new energy into the school, at a time when Covid is still putting a lot of strains onto the educative system. We can only admire the strength and courage that Horsington Church School's staff keep showing as there is still no sign of respite from Covid, and we must also thank all the families for their support and kindness.

Several lockdowns and school closures have shaped the reflection on the appropriate curriculum for children, and Mrs Alexander's team has adapted new ways for children to learn and be creative so each child can fulfil its personal development – very much in line with Ofsted new requirements although always part of Horsington School's vision. This approach is totally supported by our board of governors, who had also to rethink its own way of working. We have recently agreed on a new structure, to reflect better on today's challenges and priorities. Governors are now operating in school as well as remotely online, to allow more flexibility as well as efficiency. This follows a similar move from the Bath and Wells Multi Academy Trust, where the newly appointed CEO Nicki Edwards and her team have over the last months reshaped the organisation, with the aim of responding better to schools needs and be prepared for the future.

As governors, we feel better equipped to complete our mission. We have introduced new committees to make sure we cover every area of the school's system. We have clearly defined the importance of carefully monitoring well-being and mental health in staff members and children alike. We have also re-evaluated the school's Christian Distinctiveness, in particular thanks to the appointment of Reverend Kevin as foundation governor. We are very happy to be soon able to welcome a new parent into our team of governors. Please come forward and talk to us if you would like to do the same: it is extremely important that the board of governors represent fairly the families' views and we have still room for new governors to join us. More than ever, the school rely on a strong community of supporters, and being a governor is one of the most efficient ways to provide that support.

We wish all children and adults a healthy and peaceful year 2022.

Yours sincerely,

Jeanne Mortarotti

Chair of Governors