

13<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Dear parents and carers,

It is with great delight that at our recent Full Governors Meeting that we welcomed Mrs Cooke and Mr Larkins to our governing body. Their vast experience and existing knowledge of the school will be invaluable to all of us. We're sure Mr Larkins will be keeping an expert eye on the school maintenance!

Sadly, at the same meeting we had to say goodbye to Marcus Banks, who has been a governor at the school for eleven years. He began as a parent governor on the governing body and ended his governing career with us in the role of Chair for the last two years. We are extremely grateful and thank him for all his time and service to the school community. We're sure you'd like to join us in wishing him well for the future.

This term seems to have flown by with so many different events taking place at the school, tree planting being one. As governors, it is a pleasure to see the school in action and witness the pupils enjoying the diverse range of opportunities on offer. The two open mornings for prospective parents were an excellent example of how competent, confident and rounded the pupils are, as they gave small groups of parents guided tours of the school. Every parent said how brilliant the children had been, how they really enjoyed their tour and were extremely impressed by the school. Every pupil is indeed a leader at Preston Candover CE Primary School.

Governors have continued with their termly responsibilities and have met for Resources, Curriculum and Standards, Staffing committees and Full Governing Body meetings. Examples of topics discussed at our recent Curriculum and Standards meeting range from reviewing school performance data, policies, SEND updates, reviewing outcomes from all vulnerable groups and governor visits, which have included Safeguarding, SEND and Health and Safety among others. All discussions at committee and full board level are vital in fulfilling our strategic role and in overseeing the school's budget, ensuring money is well spent.

We are continuing to develop our expertise as governors to make sure we undertake our roles efficiently and professionally. This term we attended whole governing body training provided by Hampshire Governor Services on 'On Evaluating Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development' led by an RE Inspector. We had a wonderful opportunity to look around the classrooms and other areas of school looking for evidence of SMSC. We were all, including the RE Inspector, very impressed by all the evidence we found throughout the school. This is an area of the curriculum that the senior leadership team and staff have always promoted strongly and we should all be proud of what the pupils have achieved. As governors we will continue to record evidence of SMSC we've seen in our visit reports.

As the end of term is rapidly approaching, we wanted to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Otway and the staff for all their dedication and hard work this term. We would also like to wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and as governors, we look forward to what 2024 will have in store for us at Preston Candover CE Primary School.

The Governing Body  
Preston Candover CE Primary School