GOVERNOR NEWSLETTER
Summer 2023

Crown Meadow First School & Nursery

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Statement from the Chair

As we come to the end of another very busy term, we look back at being able to commence with trips, in-school activities and starting to host community events now that the Covid restrictions have been lifted. It has been wonderful to see and hear the excitement of the children.

I have the fantastic news that Mrs Athey will be returning after the Easter break, albeit on a phased return. I am sure that you will join me in not only welcoming her back but also thanking Miss Illy, Mr Morris and Mrs Reed for stepping in to make sure that the school ran smoothly while she was away.

This term Governors have conducted a DT review, an 'area of development' highlighted in our recent Ofsted inspection, I am pleased to say we were very happy with the progress made so far. Children were enjoying the activities and making very good progress. We also conducted our termly review of SEN standards, which went very well and completed a health and safety walk of the school site perimeter and will be forwarding our report to BAM and Worcestershire Local Authority.

I hope that you all have a wonderful Easter break.

Kind regards

Mr Keith Wiseman
Chair of Governors

Governor Elections

We currently have a vacancy for a Co-Opted Governor and will have another vacancy when a current Co-Opted Governor steps down. We will therefore be advertising for two Co-Opted Governors to join the Governing Body in the summer term. We are looking for people from the community, who are not parents or family members who want to support the school to ensure that it functions properly and that all its stakeholders receive the best possible service. If you know of anyone that may be interested, please ask them to look out for the adverts or contact the Clerk of Governors via the school.

Commemorative Pins

All pupils will receive a commemorative pin to celebrate the Coronation of His Majesty The King and Her Majesty the Queen Consort. The pins are being gifted by the Parish Council and will be delivered to the school by the Clerk and Assistant Clerk of the Parish Council week commencing Monday 1st May.

Coffee Morning

The 'Pupil Leadership Team' and School Council hosted a community coffee morning at the school on Thursday 9th March, they were also accepting donations for the 'Alvechurch Community Larder'. The Senior Leadership Team and Governors were also in attendance which gives parents an opportunity to come and ask them questions or to catch up with other parents and members of the community whilst enjoying a drink and a biscuit.

The pupils were very excited to be involved and will be hosting another coffee morning on Tuesday 9th May between 9.00am – 10.00am, please put this date in your diary.

Police Matters

At the recent Parish Council meeting the local police informed us that there has been an increase in car crime in the area, particularly affecting 'keyless' vehicles. They recommend the use of 'Faraday pouches' which block signal enhancers used by criminals and full steering wheel clamps to deter thieves. If you want to know about crime in our area, then search 'www.neighbourhoodmatters.co.uk' and type in your postcode and you will be able to see updates on our area. The local police also have a twitter page at '@AlveWythallCops' where they share local information.

Outdoor Classroom Area

Many years ago, the PTA funded the development of an outside classroom and memorial area. Unfortunately, over the past 2/3 years it has fallen into disrepair. After the success of the facility improvements Early Years areas, we have decided that it is time to renovate and re-develop the outside classroom. The Governors, Miss Butler and Miss Daly are currently working on plans that will not only re-furbish the classroom area but also further improve the outdoor experience for all our children.

We will ensure that the current PTA and children are involved and then putting bids in to fund some of the work with the hope that much of the work will be completed before we return after the summer holidays. If any of our parents are involved with landscaping and would like to offer their design expertise, we would be very pleased to hear from you.

School Crossing

I wrote to you recently to inform you that we are trying to get increased safety measures outside the school. Questions have been raised with Worcestershire County Council, Worcestershire Highways Department, Bromsgrove District Council and West Mercia Police. We are awaiting answers and will keep you informed as and when we receive them. This topic will also be an item on the agenda at the next Parish Council meeting where I will be asking for their support.

Unfortunately, we are about to have local and district council elections so during this time it is unlikely that many answers will be forthcoming from Council sources, but I will pursue replies as soon as the elections have been completed in early May. In the meantime, the police have agreed to conduct patrols whenever possible, and we will apply for further visits from the traffic warden team.