



Mudford Community Infants School

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Monday 23 July 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to this year's Governors report to parents and carers. The report gives you an insight into how the school is doing and the role that governors have had. We hope that you and your children have enjoyed this past year and your involvement with the school.

This year has been the first full year with Mr Pope as Headteacher. We hope you've all had the chance to get to know him over the course of the past year and a half. Please feel free to approach him at drop off or make an appointment through the school office if you should need to speak with him.

We have welcomed two new Governors to the Governing Body this year, thereby increasing our skills and expertise in our role overseeing both school finances and resources, as well as standards of teaching and learning. Sadly we say goodbye to one Governor, which means there is a vacancy on our Governing Body from September 2018. If anyone is interested to find out more, please contact Governors@mudfordinf.dorset.sch.uk or pick up more information from the school office.

This year Governors have been closely monitoring our school development plan and the attainment and progress of our children. We're pleased to see that key stage 1 results (year 2) go from strength to strength with a 3 year upward trend in attainment in reading, writing and maths. Not only are the results above last year's Dorset average, but they are significantly higher than national average. We are also seeing good progress, particularly in writing and maths as children progress through the school, which is a credit to the excellent standards of teaching and learning throughout the school. With that in mind the Governors would like to extend our thanks to all the teaching and support staff for their significant efforts this year, often going above and beyond, to ensure the children can access the very best learning experience.

Aside from the core subject areas, the children have been inspired this year by a wide range of topics which have brought science, history, art, drama, geography, sport, cookery and technology to the forefront of their education. You will have seen many of those yourselves at the various exhibitions or performances. A particular highlight was our first ever community Christmas celebration at the Priory in Christchurch. These wider experiences are so crucial for our children in enabling them access to a broad curriculum as well as experiences designed to increase their confidence.

Members of the Governing Body were really pleased to meet with parents and carers at this year's parent's evenings in October and in February and across the year at the range of events and community celebrations. It really is valuable to have a view from parents on how you and your families are experiencing the school, so thank you for taking the time to speak with us and/or complete our parent questionnaires. Overwhelmingly the feedback was positive, particularly

noting the friendly, nurturing and supportive environment. Parents also commented on how we're able to offer a tailored approach that meets the needs of their individual child, which is something we hope to continue by being as effective as we can with school finances and resources.

Unfortunately the conduct and behaviour of a small minority of parents has come to our attention this year. Please remember your duty as parents and carers to role model positive behaviours for all of our children. In particular we're working to ensure we respect our neighbours and most importantly ensure the safety of all our families as they walk into school. Please work with us by reading the road signage and parking legally at all times. A tougher stance against repeat offenders will have the full backing of the Governing Body.

If any parent/carer has a view you wish to share with us, please contact us directly by email to Governors@mundefordinf.dorset.sch.uk and if you would like to give feedback in general on the school you can do so at any time through the [ParentView](#) questionnaire.

This year Governors have been very active in school, finding out the children's perspectives on their education. Interviewing the children is always enlightening - we can definitely rely on them to be open and honest about their experiences in school! The children shared with us their thoughts on reading, writing and maths and what helps them to learn most effectively. We also spoke to them about their understanding of feeling safe at school, bullying, good/bad behaviour and whether the adults at school listen to them. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive with the children reporting they were very happy at school, felt safe, and that the adults cared for and treated them fairly.

Of particular note this year has been the outstanding efforts of the school, together with volunteers and members of our community to make our outside space a more inviting place to learn and play. The importance of outdoor learning is critical in ensuring all children can participate in school and I'm sure you'll agree the progress made on this project means the current children and those within our community who are yet to start school will have a wonderful place to start their learning journey.

All this has been achieved within the context of a changing political and economic environment for all schools, more of which is sure to come in 2019. With this in mind, we'd like to extend our gratitude to the 'Friends of Mundeford Infants' whose tireless efforts have raised a fantastic amount for the school and enabled our children to participate in our first ever Mundeford Infants Fun Run on the beach promenade just a few weeks ago. Not only was this new event a great fundraising success, which helps to give our children access to new learning technologies and the ability to participate in offsite visits, which would otherwise be difficult for the school to afford, but it also gave our children yet another opportunity to increase their confidence and be inspired by being active. Thank you so much to all the 'Friends of Mundeford Infants' for all you do for the school.

Thank you also to all parents and carers for your continuing support that helps to make our school as successful as it is. We would like to take this opportunity to wish you and our staff all a lovely and well-deserved summer holiday. We also wish all our year 2 children good luck as they carry on to the next phase of their education. We look forward to a new academic year and welcoming new staff, children and families to our school community.

Yours sincerely

Caroline Watkins
Chair of Governors
For and on behalf of the Governing Body of Mundeford Community Infants School