



## Mudford Community Infants School

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Head teacher : Daniel Pope

15 July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to this year's Governors report to parents and carers. This report gives you an insight into how the school is doing and how the Governing Body have performed the role of strategic oversight.

It's hard to remember the start of the school year after all that's happened over the past few months, but in September we welcomed three new members of teaching staff – Miss Cope, Miss Dennett and Mr Dear are now well and truly 'part of the furniture' and fundamental to our teaching team. I bet they didn't think they'd have such an eventful first year with us. We also welcomed our new Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCo) Mrs Kelly during April and our new Site Manager, Louise French starts in July and our new Teaching Assistant, Miss Taylor starts in September. Altogether we have a fantastic staff team and we couldn't have managed the year without every single one of them.

In September, we agreed a challenging school development plan which focused on enhancing the school curriculum, furthering professional development opportunities for staff and improving outcomes for all children, but in particular for boys. At the same time governors spent a significant amount of time understanding and helping the school embed the new Ofsted Inspection Framework.

Our areas of focus in 2019-20 have been:

### **1. School curriculum**

In order for our children to receive the very best education we aim to become a centre of excellence for infant age education and our broad and balanced curriculum is the driver for this high-quality education set in an environment of positive behaviours & attitudes and outstanding school leadership & management.

### **2. Professional development**

In order to be a centre of excellence, we have been developing our talented, dedicated and committed team of staff by focusing on being successful, happy and highly motivated to carry out their role to the standard befitting of an outstanding school.

### **3. Boys' achievement**

At infant age at a national level, boys' achievement is slightly behind that of girls and so we've taken some well-respected external best practice and taken it into our school, embedding it amongst all teaching staff, with the ambition to create an upward trend in boys' performance compared with previous years.

Of course, mid-way through the spring term, we then had a whole new way of working to adapt to, with the covid-19 school closures. As has been the case with many schools, Mudford Infants never fully closed as teachers mobilised to deliver a full programme of remote learning for those at home and remained open, even during Easter and half term holidays for our most vulnerable children and children of key workers. A huge thank you goes to the school leadership team: Mr Pope, Mrs Butler and Mrs Shale for reading the government guidance, operationalising it for our community and, with our whole staff team, delivering what I think we all agree has been an outstanding provision for their army of parent teachers -

with all the usual fun and entertainment children get in school. It's testing times like these that truly show the measure of people and as governors, we are really proud to be part of such a supportive community school.

Aside from a fabulous staff team, our school has many other strengths that are worth celebrating as we see 2019-20 year come to a close.

#### **School strengths:**

- We have high attainment with a 4-year upward trend since new standardised tests in 2016 in 2019/20 at end of KS1;
- We have increased our capacity for family pastoral care through the appointment of Mrs Jennings as our Pastoral Worker;
- We have an exemplary programme in place to support all children upon return to school in September 2020 with the Recovery Curriculum 'Incredible Me'. Support for children and families who need it most will be delivered through Mrs Jennings Pastoral Worker role;
- Curriculum opportunities have been significantly developed and this will continue to be embedded with new schemes of work which we hope will further engage parents with their child's learning in 2020-21 and beyond.
- Our outdoor learning environment continues to be developed to give children purposeful and enjoyable learning experiences;
- We've had massive support from parents in respect of the provision during school closures and during this time we've been able to continue the community ethos of the school with hugely nurturing and caring staff as well as maintain the excellent reputation of the school in our local community and within our Local Authority; and finally
- Despite the challenging circumstances, we have had successful transitions for both our new intake and our year 2 children moving to Junior School.

All that's left to be said is a fond farewell to our Year 2 children as they carry on to the next phase of their education – good luck to each and every one of you.

We hope you and all our school staff have a lovely and well-deserved break and we look forward to a new academic year and, all being well, welcoming ALL our children back to school on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September (Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September for Reception).

Yours sincerely



Caroline Watkins,  
Chair of Governors

For and on behalf of the Governing Body of Mundeford Community Infants School

#### Useful links

1. How to provide feedback to Governors:
  - Ofsted <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/login?destination=give-your-views>
  - Email Governors directly [Governors@mundefordinf.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:Governors@mundefordinf.dorset.sch.uk)

Interested in becoming a Governor? We currently have two Parent Governor vacancies. To find out more, please contact Clare Fox, Clerk to the Governors, by email on [Governors@mundefordinf.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:Governors@mundefordinf.dorset.sch.uk)