



DOWNVIEW PRIMARY SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY

July 2020

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

As another year comes swiftly to a close I am sure you all agree that this has been very different to others.

In April we said a fond farewell to Mrs. Janet Ramsdale who had been Secretary to the Governors for some 12 years. I am happy to report that Mrs Sharon Ivall became our new Secretary to Governors on 20th April 2020. I would also like to say a big welcome to our new Co-Opted Governor, Mrs Georgia Harmsworth, who joined us on 1st June 2020.

At this time myself, and the other governors, reflect on the past school year, we look forward to the future and our plans for the coming year and we also take this time to thank Mrs Williams and her fantastic staff. From the moment the rumours of the pandemic began to circulate the staff, children and local community have come together to support each other and to adapt to a new way of living.

Although school "closed" back in March it has never been completely closed with provision being made initially for our most vulnerable and the children of keyworkers and the staff have been working tirelessly since then supporting the children, parents and families. They have been the central point between government's rapidly changing guidance and advice and families who have been overwhelmed by the changes in society in such a short period of time.

The list of people to thank seems endless and includes, but is not limited to, all the staff who have been absolutely amazing in their dedication and commitment to the children and the school. The keyworker parents who sent their children to school so that they were able to support the country when it was in need. The keyworker parents who were able to work from home and kept their children home so that school would not be overwhelmed. To all the parents who have had more time alone with their children since they were babies and have tried to support their education as best they could - and can now appreciate how hard our teachers and staff work during the year. Most of all to our children who have borne the brunt of this cruel time with all of their routine taken away from them and their friendship circles distanced through necessity.

I would also like to thank my fellow Governors for their help and support and willingness to adapt to new ways of Governance.

Moving into the new school year we will continue to support the school in adapting to the guidance issued by H M Government and ensuring that we fulfill our duties as Governors with an emphasis on supporting the physical and mental wellbeing of the children, families and staff.

Have a great summer.

S. Hawthorn

Mrs Sue Hawthorn
Chair of Governors