



20th July 2018

Dear Parents

We have come to the end of a very busy and productive year at Petersfield School.

As a governing body we are very proud of our children and staff and the school community to which they are central. We are also proud of the Christian values that the school upholds ensuring the children behave in a caring and respectful way.

We would like to say a huge thank you to Mrs Gwynn and Mrs Penrose and the whole staff team for their tremendous efforts over the last year. We recognise that working in any school presents many challenges, but working in a Requires Improvement school needs an additional level of commitment and expertise. We are very grateful to the staff who have 'gone the extra mile' and who have delivered such a high level of care.

Almost a year has gone by since our Ofsted Inspection and much progress has been made.

We are very pleased to report that the Local Authority has carried out several monitoring visits and confirmed that the leadership and management of the school continues to be good and that teaching and learning is improving. This has impacted positively across the school with more children making good or better progress, differences for disadvantaged pupils are diminishing and the more able pupils are being suitably challenged. Also improvements in the wider curriculum were highlighted.

We are positive about the progress so far, but understand that there are still improvements to be made until all teaching and standards are good across all subjects and all classes. However, a two year gap is left between inspections to allow schools the necessary time to embed good practice, whilst firmly removing any barriers. We greatly look forward to seeing the continued good progress from September, with the many positive improvements that have, already, been put in place.

Thank you to all of the parents who completed our questionnaire, on governor communication. We discussed the results at our meeting. Most parents told us that they were happy with the current level of communication, but there were some helpful suggestions and as a result we agreed that:

- The Chair of Governors will write a letter at the beginning and end of the school year that included an outline of the work of Governors, a broad update on school progress against Ofsted actions (at a strategic level) and other general matters
- Governors will write a short report for the newsletter after they have carried out a monitoring visit (This has already been put in place)
- A note will be put in the newsletter when new minutes of meetings are available. (Please note, minutes only become available once agreed at the next meeting, therefore there is an unavoidable delay in making these public. Also, many discussions take place of a sensitive nature and these cannot be made public as they could for example involve named individuals)
- We will no longer hold a session for parents prior to the Full Governing Body meeting as you told us you did not find this useful

- Governors will be available at other times to meet parents e.g. new parent meetings, consultation evenings, social events etc.

On a personal note, I would like to say thank you to my colleagues on the governing body. They are an extremely committed group of people, who freely give of their time and energy. They have many varied skills and much knowledge, but continue to train and develop to ensure that they carry out their duties effectively. Duties which include:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
- Holding the head teachers to account for educational performance
- Overseeing financial performance
- Overseeing premises management

On behalf of all the Governors, I would like to wish you and your family a very happy and sunny summer break. We wish all our Y6 leavers the very best for the future and hope that the transition to secondary school is smooth.

Very best wishes

Linda Meredith

On behalf of the Governors of Petersfield School