

Dear Parents and Carers,

As Chair of Governors it has been my privilege over the last few years, at the start of each academic year, to write to you all, both parents and carers new to the school, as well as those of you with children already here and on behalf of the Full Governing Body, welcome you all.

In previous years, my letter has reflected on the usual ups and downs of a primary school as it starts the academic year – the gloomy morning starts, the darkening afternoons, the usual coughs and colds (!), the noisy chatter of little people enjoying learning. Christmas. Obviously this new start has been anything other than usual.

The advent of Covid-19 has impacted, by and large, all of us. For those children and families returning to school, the experience has been much changed; for those of you new to the school it is an introduction into school life unlike what you anticipated for your child(ren). In spite of these changes however I have no doubt that the staff, both teaching and non-teaching, have done a wonderful job in ensuring that the buoyance and positivity towards learning that has always been a characteristic of our school remains an essential part of the young people's experience.

The staff have worked hard to adapt and learn new methods of teaching as well ensure the school's processes follow Government and local authority guidance to ensure a safe start to the new term and I would like to again to thank them for their efforts. I would also like to thank you all for your ongoing support and trust as we work together to offer the best education possible for our children.

This coming academic year is likely to be challenging, to a greater or lesser extent, for us all. During difficult times like these, the strength of our community shines through, and the support that we offer each other can make important and positive contributions to people's lives.

Whatever is to pass, I am confident that the staff at Great Wilbraham Primary School will offer a learning environment that is safe, nurturing and notwithstanding any decisions taken out of the school's hands, a positive constant whatever the difficulties are to come.

We have so many reasons to celebrate our fantastic school, its staff, the young people, yourselves, our community. Let us continue to work together to make this a successful year for all our children.

On behalf of the Full Governing Body,

Brendan Reid

Chair of Governors

Meeting of the Governing Body: 14th September 2020

This was principally an administrative meeting and as such was mainly spent on ensuring that the governance of the FGB is fit for purpose for the forthcoming year.

To this end, I was returned as the Chair of Governor for the academic year. Sadly, we said good-bye to Lewis Robinson as he is stepping down from his role as a parent governor vice-chair of the FGB and I would like to thank him for his immense contribution to the success of our FGB in recent years. I would however, like to thank all the governors who have, variously, offered to undertake the ranges of duties arising from Lewis' departure.

As a FGB we agreed our standing orders and committed to our 'Code of Conduct'. Finally, dates for future FGB meetings, sub-committee meetings and learning walks were agreed in principal.

Finally, the FGB reflected upon the re-opening of the school within the context of the risk assessment. It was recognised that, in spite of the challenges, it has been a successful start but, given the nature of the public health crisis, will likely require ongoing monitoring as events dictate.

If you wish to know the dates of the future FGB meetings please contact the Clerk on clerk@greatwilbraham.cambs.sch.uk

Brendan Reid (Chair of Governors)