



becoming reflective, independent and aspirational learners for life

Governors' Newsletter

Summer 2021

Dear Amberley Families,

Somehow we seem to have managed to get to the end of the academic year in no time at all. It has certainly been another strange and difficult time with lots of challenges thrown at the school. The Staff and Governors focus during the winter term was to get the children settled back into school and to prepare for the inevitable second closure of schools. The hard work of the staff very much paid off. It is my belief that the Amberley school online learning was of a very high standard and probably some of the best from any primary school in the country.

Whilst thanking the staff it has to be noted that this was only possible with the continued dedication of our parents to their children's education during difficult times and of course the amazing resilience and adaptability of the kids themselves. The children were constantly reminding several of the staff how to use Teams and I understand much praise was given to the teachers when they accomplished small online tasks! Of course, at some point, we will need to inform the children that all this new technology may yet mean the end of those famous Amberley snow days!

The reopening of the school was the highlight of the year and the children hit the ground running with the Teachers very impressed with their work, and assessments have shown that the standards expected are being maintained. School though is about more than just work and it was great to see the return of school outings. There were days in Bristol at the Aquarium and We the Curious plus trips to Gloucester Cathedral and The Waterways Museum as well as the Cotswold Wildlife Park and Gardens. There was no more a deserved trip than Belted Galloway's week long PGL jaunt. Full of all the usual fun and activities it was a great week for the children and a real chance for the year 6 (local Dodgeball Champions!!) to spend some time together before they head off to the big schools. We wish them all the best for their future. It takes a lot of dedication and responsibility, even in normal times let alone during a global pandemic, to undertake these trips and I would like to thank all the staff involved as I know how much the children get out of them.

There has been just one change on the Governing board this year and I am delighted to welcome Jamie Weaver who has agreed to join us as a Foundation Governor.

As I write this, Covid restrictions are about to be eased, with relaxation of the self-isolation rules for children. This is very welcome but we may yet face a difficult coming winter. I am sure though that if we all work together as Staff, Governors, Parents and Children hopefully we can minimize any disruption to the daily Amberley school life and our children's education.

It just leaves me, on behalf of the Governing board, to wish Miss Cale and her staff a well-earned summer break and to hope all our parents and children get some quality time away together. We look forward to seeing you all refreshed and ready to go again in September.

James Holmes

Chair of Governors