

Chairs End of Year Report – August 2020



Achieved in this Period

- This was my third year as Chair at King's Lodge School and it was a very different year altogether! Due to the pandemic none of us have been able to be in school as much as we liked and the rota of visits and discussions with children and teachers has not been possible.
- As a Governing body we have hosted numerous virtual meetings using the MS Teams software which has been brilliant. This has allowed us to have meetings at short notice and focus on particular issues. We have supported Kim and the staff in their planning for their response to the pandemic, firstly for the key worker bubbles and then secondly for the opening up for pupils in Reception, Y1 and Y6. The school saw a good uptake of pupils returning to the school in June and I think this is a testament to all the planning and measure put in place by the school. My thanks to all staff, parents and children who have supported the school during this difficult time.
- As a parent of a year 6 child who returned to school for his last term I know he enjoyed the time there despite their disappointment with it not being the norm. Likewise it has been disappointing for the children and the school to not have completed the SATS this year. The outgoing year 6 have made tremendous progress in their learning over the last 3-4 years and we would have expected the results to demonstrate that. They and the staff should be very proud of the efforts put in. Leavers T-shirts, from KLF, were well received.
- This year, during the pandemic, I have had to deal with two formal complaints, one of which I reported to the FGB and the second, post all FGB meetings, I informed Ann and Mike as the vice Chair and Chair of Committee respectively. Laurien Carter, clerk to the FGB, was also involved due to the nature of the complaint. The complainant has not progressed with any further action following my investigation and response to her.
- Because of the pandemic we saw the earlier than anticipated closure of Hullabaloo pre and after school club. Governors and the school recognised that parents rely on the services given by Hullabaloo and that the children enjoy going there. We have therefore decided that the school will take the provision of something similar to Hullabaloo in house. Again, due to the pandemic and the increase in parents working from home the exact nature of this provision needs to be worked through over the first term in 2020/21.
- Over the holidays the school has seen some large capital works take place. Notably the ongoing saga of the non-functioning boilers will hopefully be at an end as they were replaced, at a cost to Wiltshire Council. We also started the external painting work which we agreed we will do in phases as budgets allow.

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Focus for Next Period

There will be loads for us to focus on next year and we'll use the first functional committee and FGB of the new school year to discuss these but some that come to mind are:

- Support Kim and the staff in the re-introduction of a full school timetable in September 2020.
- Be ready for any change in government policy due to the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Work with Kim on agreeing way forward for the school to run a successful after school club
- We need to recruit a new governors – how can we attract people from the Chippenham community?
- Targets for next years school improvement plan
- Governor visit – rota and to include session with teachers and children
- Governor training to resume
- Continue to monitor budgets and look for new income and agree way forward for future years
- Plan future phases of external work to help maintain the building and keep up appearances.

For further info, including attendance and terms of office please go to the website:

http://www.kingslodge.wilts.sch.uk/?page_id=4493