

Dear Parents/Carers,

Brooke School Governors' Annual Report 2017

As another school year comes to an end it is an opportunity to provide updates from a wide range of areas across the school that the governing body have been busy with this year.

Our governors are all volunteers who provide their time and experience freely in order to support and improve the pupils' teaching and learning experience and also in support of our staff and leadership team. The following letter is a summary of the work we have done in our capacity as a Full Governing Body.

New School Update

Unfortunately, we have been informed at a recent meeting with Norfolk County Council and Councillor Barry Stone that most of the funding that was originally allocated to complete building works of a new school in Brooke has been reallocated to other projects. The County Council had been unable to complete the purchase of the necessary land that would be needed to progress with any build and therefore there are other capital projects that now take priority. I understand that this will be disappointing news for many of you. We will continue to focus on improving the facilities and premises that we do have available.

Woodland Classroom

We are extremely fortunate to have access to a large area of outdoor space that is not far from the school and with the support of our tremendous PTFA team we are investing in this area to enable us to make better use of this facility. We are currently working on installing some compost toilet and hand wash facilities and will be working in partnership with Goldcrest Outdoor Education to deliver some excellent lessons for all our pupils throughout the next year.

Leadership & Staff Changes

You will be aware that it has been a difficult year for the school in this respect. Our head teacher, Mr Robinson, has been off for several months and we continue to keep in regular contact with him and support him where possible to ensure he makes a speedy recovery. As per our recent communication, we know that he will not be returning at the start of the new school year. To ensure we continue to provide an excellent level of teaching and learning for our pupils we have recruited an interim head teacher, Mrs Jennifer Cockett, who will support us 3 days a week for the first term starting in September. We would like to thank Mr John Marshall-Grint for the support and guidance he has given us this year & I'm sure you'll join us in extending a warm welcome to Jennifer.

We would also like to wish Mrs Hickman all the best for her retirement and thank her for the tremendous contribution she has made to the school over the years she has been with us. Mrs Pointer and Mrs Ringwood are also leaving us having provided some excellent support to the school as Teaching Assistants on fixed term contracts.

Outdoor Area Canopies

The PTFA have been busy this year raising much needed funding that has enabled to fit canopies over the outdoor space outside Robin's Classroom. This has made the space much more accessible to the pupils regardless of the weather and also prolongs the lifespan of the equipment that has to be stored outside too.

Federation & Academies

We have continued to explore the potential options and benefits of joining forces with other schools or academy trusts but at this time we are not looking to make any changes in this regard.

SATs Results

Our Year 6 pupils have excelled themselves this year with some excellent Key Stage 2 SATs results that I am sure they will be proud of. We wish them all the best for the future as they move on to the next stage of their education. A big thank you to all the staff at Brooke who I know are also extremely proud of this year's achievements!

Governance & PTFA

As well as saying goodbye to our Year 6 pupils we also have a number of governors leaving us this year. We are extremely grateful for their contribution and sad to see them leave! This means that we will be looking for some new parents to join the governing body and will be running a parent election when we return to school in September. If you'd like to know more about the work that the governing body do then please feel free to get in touch with me or any of the other governors.

Our amazing PTFA team are also looking for some new volunteers to enable the amazing fundraising activities which we all enjoy so much to continue. If you are interested you can attend their AGM on 18th September in the school hall at 6:30pm.

And finally, we hope that you all have a wonderful break over the summer holiday. We look forward to seeing you all back at school on September 6th and am sure that you will help us in welcoming our new reception pupils and parents to the school.

With best wishes,



Jeremy Chaplin

Chair of Governors

On behalf of Brooke VC CofE Primary School Governing Body

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