Grappenhall Heys Community Primary School



Stansfield Drive, Grappenhall Heys, Warrington, Cheshire, WA4 3EA T: 01925 212540

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Headteacher: Ms K. Jackson

Dear Parents/Carers

13th December 2021

A sense of community at Grappenhall Heys Primary School is valued by all key stakeholders at school including our children, parents, staff and governors; central to that is different opportunities for communication. A termly letter from Governors offers an opportunity to draw attention to key topics as a reflection at the end of term and highlight areas of priority looking forward to the next term.

Firstly, welcome to the new families who have joined this academic year; we hope the opportunity to visit during parents evening recently and the upcoming entertainment of the nativity will be a great way to celebrate your child's first term.

Thank you everyone for your feedback using the parents evening questionnaires; the governing body value the parent voice and would encourage parents to access the school website including the parent voice and governor webpage for example, to understand how such feedback is considered and actioned. The website as a whole, and in particular the news feed, gives brilliant insight into the life of the school.

During this first term, it was valuable to welcome two external consultants to spend a day in school, observing classroom activities and spend time looking through work with children enthusiastically providing a narrative of their experiences. The children's confidence to share their thoughts with visitors was commended as the school's richest source of evidence of its outstanding qualities. Thank you to the staff who passionately work to bring learning to life, delivering on carefully planned, seamless and creative curriculum.

The children's voice has also been the best starting place for an exciting new project focused upon the outdoor play across school which will be announced in more detail in the new year. Again, a consultant who spent time on the playground as part of a preliminary meeting was taken by the confidence of the children to voice their views on the topic of playtimes and their ideas for the future.

A letter was received by the Governors from Lledr Hall commending the Y5 and 6 children for their outstanding behaviour throughout the trip and the staff for their teamwork. The residentials have been a significant highlight for key stage two children this term especially in terms of its significance for the children's sense of independence and achievement in the new outdoor activities they embraced during the trip.

The Governors were very thankful for the continued support of the school community to continue fundraising efforts despite the limitations that covid-19 restrictions created to enable an ordinary diary of events. A donation of £11,000 at the Friends AGM enabled a decision to purchase 30 new Ipads so that each key stage now has a set to share.



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Looking forward to the new year, the play project reflects a central focus on how the school environment continually creates rich new experiences for our children. It represents how the upcoming building works will not deflect from the schools values and priorities. The local newspaper is trying very hard to bring a commentary on this important topic; when the tendering process is complete and a building company are appointed, the schools leadership team will work incredibly hard to ensure direct communication throughout is timely and effective. A sense of community throughout is the priority for us all.

Have a wonderful Christmas

Laura O' Callaghan

Chair of Governors

