

Governors Newsletter Autumn 2018

Dear all

'May you live in interesting times' is a well-worn phrase, often portrayed as an old Chinese curse, a hope that the recipient is to be faced by insecurity and change. (In fact, it's probably a 20th Century invention brought to prominence in a speech by JFK, but I still like it). Last year was certainly 'interesting' at Clapham Terrace – who would have thought 12 months ago that by now we would have reconstructed our Senior Leadership Team, welcomed a new teacher, brought Rockets into the school fold, created an entirely new classroom, won the County rounders tournament and produced some simply brilliant SATS results?

As Chair of the Governing Body, although I was absolutely delighted, I wasn't surprised by those end of Key Stage outcomes. Over the year I saw first-hand the thought, effort, determination and resilience that the children and staff put into their studies. I am so proud of them all, and equally proud of the feedback we are getting from their new schools about our former pupils.

Their feedback shows that education is about so much more than tests – we at Clapham Terrace aim to produce well rounded, resilient and interested children who take pride in their education and are prepared for the amazing opportunities that are out there. We plan to do this by providing a broad, vibrant and engaging curriculum, treating every child as an individual and engaging with all of you as parents and carers.

That last point is crucial – your involvement is one of the most important elements in your child's education, so please do get stuck in! There is an annual questionnaire that I would urge you to complete when it arrives, but in the meantime do go to the OFSTED Parent View website and give your views – we are overdue an inspection and OFSTED only use the last 12 months of data from the site, so visit even if you've done it in the past (spoiler alert - we also look at it to see how you feel about school, so be honest!).

And so to the year ahead. Mrs Miles, the Leadership Team and the Governing Body have produced the annual Development Plan for the school. We are constantly seeking ways of improving the school, looking at teaching, leadership, personal development, Early Years provision and curriculum enhancements, and the Governors are fully involved in monitoring the outcomes and working with school to help facilitate change. Safe to say, I am very excited about what will doubtless be another 'interesting' 12 months!

I'm sure that 2018/19 will prove to be another successful year, however you like to measure it. As you file this away alongside the others in your special Governors Newsletter folder, let's enjoy seeing where the next 12 months takes us. A particularly warm welcome to all our new families – I hope to meet you during the year as we celebrate all those little milestones that make a Primary Education at Clapham Terrace so special.

Dan Johnston
Chair of Governors