

Dear parents/carers,

As we enter the final term of the school year, we wanted to tell you how proud we are of your children and the way they clearly love their learning in school. Whenever we walk round the school we are met with politeness and enthusiasm; it's always such a pleasure to visit. Throughout the whole school there is always a lovely calm, but purposeful, atmosphere and we feel so proud to be a part of this school.

The year 6 SATs are now behind us. The children had obviously been well prepared by their teachers and several children have told us that they actually enjoyed the tests! Once again, we have experienced such great staff co-operation and teamwork to ensure that the whole process has gone smoothly for everyone concerned. Whilst this is nothing less than we expect, it still amazes us at how supportive everyone is at our school.

Governors have continued to undertake their monitoring role through their visits and meetings in school and are happy to report that the gaps created by Covid are being diminished as a result of good teaching and the extra support being targeted very effectively.

We recently took the opportunity to visit our on-site Forest Schools provision and were delighted to see how well the teachers use this resource to enhance the creative curriculum and how much the children were enjoying the wide range of learning activities. There was a real buzz and sense of excitement. We would have loved to have stayed longer!

Our governors remain totally committed to their vision for our school and each governor brings their own particular skills and experience to the governing board. Being part of the Embark Trust, we enjoy working closely with their central team and other schools in the Trust. Several of our governors attended an Embark Governors' network meeting on the evening of 12th May and this provided a great opportunity to meet other governors from the 15 schools who are now part of the Embark Trust. At that meeting we were fortunate to listen to Sir David Carter, former National Schools Commissioner, who shared his thoughts on 10 guiding principles of effective governance. It was very inspirational and we will be reflecting on our own practice going forward.

As we're sure you are aware, your children are continuing to work towards The Embark Award scheme and our curriculum provides countless opportunities for them to achieve the many challenges involved in the award. Many of you have reported how much you enjoy supporting your children with the challenges through activities that you set up at home. Keep sending the photos and reports of these activities as we love to see them. We are pleased to report that there will be an annual Embark Awards evening in October of this year where some of the children from all the Embark Trust schools will receive medals and certificates to acknowledge their achievements in the four areas of Family, Integrity, Teamwork and Success. Details to follow.

Finally, thank you for your continued support and encouragement of your children to help us fulfil our vision of being an ACE school where we all **Achieve, Care and Enjoy**. We look forward to seeing you at future school events; please come and introduce yourselves to us and share your ideas about how we can continue to support our school. If anyone wishes to contact us in the meantime, we can be contacted through the school office.

Kind regards

Jane Bowley & Carolyn Wood
Co-Chairs of Governors