



Bapchild & Tonge CE (Aided) Primary School and Nursery

Headteacher: Mr C Kelly

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Dear Parents and Carers,

It is difficult to believe we have completed two more busy terms this academic year, with the excitement of Science week last week and with the Easter services and competitions this week!!

The work of the governing body within the school has continued to take place behind the scenes, which involves monitoring the vision and ethos of the school; the educational performance of the pupils; The performance of the staff; and the financial performance of the school, ensuring that our funds are well spent.

This term that has involved us working as a team on new documentation needed for the Church of England SIAMS Inspection which explores the question – “How effective is the school’s distinctive Christian vision, established and promoted by leadership at all levels, in enabling pupils and adults to flourish?”

We continue to monitor data concerning the progress that our children are making and equally importantly we see the development of the curriculum in the school with useful working walls in the classrooms, the newly introduced Knowledge Organisers and the exciting new Curriculum maps which you can see on the website. All this development involves an enormous amount of work from all the staff in the school. The industry and output of Mr Kelly, his Senior Leadership Team, subject leaders and all the staff has been quite spectacular especially in a term beset by sickness and strikes. We should all be grateful to them for their knowledge, passion, dedication and their devotion to our children. I know that external visitors have been impressed with the changes that have been made and with the team ethos and enthusiasm which is shared within the school.

The financial situation in schools is a reflection of the whole community, with costs rising rapidly and income not quite keeping up. We continue to be prudent with expenditure in the school although we have invested in the wonderful transformation of the ‘old’ staff room into a most exciting nursery setting which allows free flow from inside to outside plus a new sensory room if they just need a little quiet time. Next term you will see a canopy in the outside area which will give protection in the extremes of the British weather for those children who prefer to do their learning outside. The Breakfast Club now has a permanent home in the mobile and continues to be popular with some excellent breakfasts being offered.

Although the governors work behind the scenes, we do love to visit the school and have joined in with science week, attended worship both in school and the church, enjoyed a school lunch, taken part in a litter pick and been on learning walks in the classrooms. There is nothing better

than seeing the children happily and actively involved in their learning and it was fantastic to see so many parents at Family worship, at the brilliant and quite moving Easter services and at the science afternoon. Some of you got very muddy in Reception class and some were exhausted with the timed star jumps in year 2!!

For me, the highlight of this term has been the honour of being a judge at the Talent Show this week! I continue to be amazed by the confidence that our children show at this annual event and by how calm and mature they act in quite a nerve-wracking situation! Congratulations to everyone who took part. You have my deepest admiration – you are all superstars!!!

I would like to thank the staff once more, the rest of the governing body, the members of FOBS and of course you, the parents and carers for your continued support and I wish you all a relaxing Easter break with, hopefully, lots of chocolate!!! The Governors are looking forward to seeing all the pupils continue making great progress at our wonderful school when we resume after Easter.

With very best wishes for a happy, healthy and holy Easter.

Susannah Butcher

Chair of Governors