

Belleville Primary School Governors' Newsletter

December
2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

On behalf of myself and the Local Governing Body (LGB), we wanted to write and thank our incredible pupils, parents, carers and staff for supporting an exceptional winter term at Belleville.

We wish to offer a special thank you to all our staff at Belleville who we know work tirelessly to ensure that our children receive a quality first education and who strive to continuously improve all aspects of school life.

Of course, Covid continues to disrupt all our lives and particularly the continuity of children's learning. However, as your LGB, we have seen the efforts that all of our staff have made to ensure that disruption is kept to a minimum. This has required all staff to be flexible and willing to go above and beyond as well as support from yourselves in self-isolating and testing your children when needed.

Our role within the LGB is to support and challenge the vision and strategic direction of the school, within the overall framework of the Quality First Education Trust. We work with the Headteachers to approve school improvement plans and to monitor and oversee the implementation of those plans.

This year's improvement plan focuses our attention on three key priorities. They are ensuring a consistently high quality education for every child, in every lesson, in every class; improving communication and engagement both internally and externally with our children, parents, carers and community; and investing in the continuous professional development of our staff.

Ensuring a consistently high quality curriculum is a core focus of the new Ofsted framework. For Belleville, which already offers a strong and thoughtful curriculum - this means focusing on ensuring the consistency of high quality teaching and lesson planning across the school. As your elected and co-opted Governors, when we visit the school, we are looking to ensure that the classroom experience is of a consistently high standard for all our pupils and that the safety and wellbeing of our children is at the heart of everything we do.

We're also focused on improving communications between the school (across both sites), its parents/carers and the wider community. One of the effects of Covid has been a greater emphasis on communications, as government policy shifts in relation to Covid, keeping parents, carers and our wider community informed of these changes is critical. These changes are decided at a national level and often at very short notice. We hope you have found the school newsletters this half-term informative about the strategic direction of the school as well as providing updates on the children's day-to-day activities, both inside the classroom, and through visits, events and festivals that our pupils have been able to take part in.

Finally, investing in the continuous professional development of all staff at Belleville is how we ensure that every child receives a quality first education. At Belleville, we believe the quality of education we offer our pupils cannot exceed the quality of our staff. The headteachers are working on ensuring that all staff have access to quality continuous professional development this year and are also reviewing the appraisal system for all staff employed by Belleville School.

We're always happy to hear from our school community. If you have any suggestions you would like to raise with your LGB, please feel free to chat to us in the playground, drop a letter into school reception addressed to the Governors or email governors@bellevilleschool.org.

As we draw towards the end of the final week of term, we wish you all a safe and festive holiday season and we very much hope that you will be able to enjoy time with loved ones.

With many thanks,

Emma Stace, Chair of Local Governing Body

Sanjeev Chopra, Vice Chair of Local Governing Body