

GOVERNORS NEWSLETTER – SUMMER 2020



As we've come to the end of an unusual school academic year, governors would like to very much thank everyone who has been involved in working through the recent uncertain times.

Staff

The staff at Cotherstone Primary school have been exceptional, acting so professionally, flexibly and supportively during the recent unsettling months. The governors are very grateful for all the superb work they have been doing.

We have come a long way since all schools were locked down in March. I've seen staff spending countless hours supporting children whilst they were 'home schooling'. They've also been working through a maze of risk assessments and documentation which has allowed them to reopen school to some pupils as safely as possible in the last six weeks of term. The staff are a credit to the school and the governors are extremely proud of the way they have adapted admirably to all the challenges that have been thrown at them in recent weeks.

I'm sure other parents will agree that it has been lovely to see on the school Facebook page the activities that the children have been doing both during lockdown at home, and in more recent weeks back in school.

Goodbye to our year 6 children!

The governors would like to wish our current year 6 pupils well as they move on to secondary school in September. Whilst it may have been an unconventional ending to their time in primary school, we are impressed at how they have grown and developed in their time at the school. We wish them all the very best for the future!

Governors update

Unfortunately, we have said goodbye to one of our long-standing governors this term. Alison Lamb, our governing body vice-chair, has stood down after many years supporting the governing body. Her knowledge and expertise will

be greatly missed, but we would like to thank her for all her hard work supporting the school and wish her well for the future. A list of current school governors can be found on the school website at:

<http://www.cotherstone.durham.sch.uk/about-us/our-governing-body/>

Friends of Cotherstone School

Thank you to the FOCS who have done another excellent job fundraising this year and to all the parents and relatives who have supported the events! The money raised has helped the school to buy a valuable array of resources to support the children's learning.

Important information about the return to school in September:

Planning is ongoing in school to make sure the procedures necessary are in place to re-open to all children in September and to give a warm welcome to our new Reception children.

The staff have been working with Durham County Council and following national Government guidance to make sure all the necessary precautions, risk assessments and resulting alterations have been completed to make the return to school in September as safe as possible. Governors of both Cotherstone and Bowes have worked closely with the school on this and we are confident of the procedures we are putting in place for September.

Please take the time to read the letter from Mrs Matthewman which sets out the procedures for the return to school in September. A copy is available on the school website. It is extremely important that these instructions are followed to keep everyone safe, however if you have any questions or concerns then please email the school or raise with one of the governors.

We hope you all have a lovely summer holiday and come back refreshed for a new start in September!

SCHOOL RE-OPENS ON WEDNESDAY 2 SEPTEMBER.

Governors contact details:

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