

Letter from the Chair of Governors - December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

The Governing Body of the New Scotland Hill would like to thank you all for your continuing tremendous support and cooperation during such testing times. A pandemic is something none of us have experienced before and we are still learning and reacting to official guidelines but always doing the best we possibly can under the circumstances.

Our term started with the deeply sad news of the untimely passing of Mrs Woodhouse. You may not know, but as well as her other roles in School, Adele was the Clerk to the Governors. We miss her and my thoughts remain with her family, friends and colleagues.

Within the limitations set down by the local and national authorities we have remained open and the children have continued their learning. All the signs are that they are enjoying school. We are so fortunate to have the wonderful school grounds to use as a learning resource.

Mr Cotterill's passion, vision and enthusiasm is providing the leadership for the school and with the team he has built around him are pushing forward with school improvement and striving for the best outcomes for our children. This in spite of the adversity of Covid.

Thank you to everyone in the school community for following the Covid rules of Hands Face Space and keeping our staff and children safe.

I would like to offer my personal thanks to all the Governors for their voluntary time, dedication and contribution to the school. Most Governor activity will be invisible to parents, more so during this pandemic but rest assured we continue to function thanks to Microsoft Teams!

The Governing Body have statutory duties by which they are legally bound. These include setting targets for pupil achievement, managing the school's finances, making sure the curriculum is balanced, appointing senior staff, reviewing staff and deciding how, in strategic terms, the school should be run. In short, the Governing Body has a responsibility for the conduct of the school with a view to promoting high standards of educational achievement.

Thank you to the PTA who, in the absence of the traditional bazaar and quiz night opportunities, continued innovative funding ideas raising for the school raising over £1300. Well done and thank you for supporting them.

Finally, a big thank you to all the teaching and support staff for their continuing support and dedication to this school.

2020 has been a year like no other and I sincerely hope, with better understanding and vaccines on the horizon, we will all start to get back to normal next year.

On behalf of all Governors, I would like to wish you a peaceful holiday and a happy New Year. We look forward to welcoming you back in 2021!

Stay safe.

Darren Abbott

Chair of Governors