St Andrew's Church of England Junior School

Head Teacher: Mrs A Cornwall, Chair of Governors: Mr B Levitan
Vice Chair: Mr T Woods, Clerk to Governors: Mrs L Powell

Newsletter September 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

A new school year, marked by key changes in the country

As we begin a new school year we cannot omit to acknowledge that it is overshadowed by the death of Queen Elizabeth II. Queen Elizabeth was a steadfast Christian throughout her life and this was shown by her living out the role of a "servant" queen in the fullest sense of Christian values. We are proud to be a Church of England school and hope that these core values are demonstrated within the school as well. The school marked the queen's passing with a special service. We have also witnessed the election (within the Conservative Party) of a new leader and Prime Minister and the turmoil that led up to these events. Our country faces many challenges including the recent cost of living issues, and this inevitably impacts on us all. As a school we are aware of these issues and will strive to provide the best possible environment for our children.

A renewed strategy

All schools must have strategies that inform how the curriculum is structured and teaching is carried out. We will be reviewing the school's strategy (called the School Improvement Plan – also called the School Development Plan) to ensure that we are continuing to further develop areas of strength, and address areas where we need to improve. Whilst we will of course take on board feedback from the Ofsted report (November 2021) and the recent SATS results, more importantly we will take a holistic view that goes beyond simply being reactive to reports and exam results – this will include the valuable insights of the recent annual review SIAMS inspections*. The new plan will be available on the web site at "Home > Parents > St Andrew's CE Junior School - School Development Plan" in due course.

Parent Governor needed

Mrs Zuzana Powley, who has served as a Parent Governor so well over the past three years, is now a member of teaching staff so has had to resign her post. This means we have a vacancy for a Parent Governor – the closing date to apply is 14 October. If you think you might like to join the governing board please contact the school office for more information and an application pack.

*Note – SIAMS stands for "Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools" and sits alongside the Oftsed inspections but looks at different aspects within the school. Our last SIAMS inspection was in 2016 and we will probably next be inspected in 2023-24.