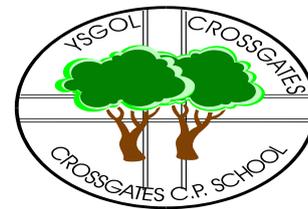


Governor Newsletter to Parents and Carers



Summer Term 2020

This has certainly been a school year like no other any of us can remember – however old we are! The governors have been proud of the manner in which Crosssgates School has adapted throughout the pandemic with staff ensuring that our children can continue to learn from home as well as new duties with the key workers hub. 64% of pupils were welcomed back into school for a check in and catch up in July. A major concern is, as ever, the welfare and happiness of our staff and pupils and this time of isolation has been tough in many ways. So it was fabulous to hear positive reports from parents who said how much their children had enjoyed returning to school.

Task & Finish Group

Three Governors formed part of the Task Group that was set up to focus on the return to school and review in detail the risk assessment. It has not been easy or straightforward and we are learning all the time. There is still much planning to do for September full opening – rotas, staggered playtimes and lunches, reviewing policies, writing a new Risk Assessment and making sure everything is in place for a safe return.

Standards and Curriculum

Governors have reviewed documents about supporting distance learning and more recently the blended learning approach. The curriculum is currently suspended. WG guidance states that during the autumn term pupils should make meaningful progress and receive the same amount of learning time pre-Covid 19. Pupils should have opportunity to apply their literacy, numeracy and digital competence skills across a broad and balanced curriculum that has a purpose and support learners' well-being.

Finance Committee

RCSIS, PDG and EYPDG expenditure for the 20/21 financial year totalling £32819 has been approved. This is an increase on last year and will be spent on in class and catch up support, Thrive, some new laptops, smart board, and a number of programs to support reading, writing and spelling. We await news on how much of the 29 million will be received to raise standards of disadvantaged learners in our school.

Changes to the Governing Body – Governors expressed thanks to Mr Alf Jackman who has tendered his resignation as community governor. He had served on the governing body longer than anyone, excepting John Powell and was Chair for several years. Here is a short bio from Mr Mark Stafford-Tolley who has been appointed as his replacement: *“I am really pleased and proud to be elected as a Governor for Crosssgates. I have worked for Powys County Council for almost 18 years, but before then I worked as a Chartered Surveyor for both public bodies, and in private practice. I used to be a governor at Ysgol Trefonnen School and I was on the Well-Being committee as well as a few statutory committees. My interests would be to manage the buildings and grounds, but also to maximise opportunities for pupils to walk and cycle from home to school and vice versa through active travel.”*

For family reasons, Mr Andrew Morgan, has stepped down from his role on Finance and as Vice-Chair of the Governing Body. Mark Stafford-Tolley has been appointed to these positions.

Finally, as a Governing Body, we would like to wish you all a happy and safe summer with your children. We would like to thank all of the leadership, teaching and support staff for the relentless hard work over the course of this challenging year and we look forward to welcoming you all back in September.