



Headteacher:
Mrs Katie Turner

CHILTON FOLIAT PRIMARY SCHOOL

Church of England, Voluntary Aided

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Thursday 22nd July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As the academic year draws to a close, the Governing Body has taken time to reflect on what has been achieved in its 250th anniversary year.

Despite the extraordinary challenges the COVID-19 pandemic brought with it, it has provided an opportunity for our school's Christian values of **thankfulness, courage and love** to flourish.

Our small church school is so fortunate to be set in a beautiful village in a gorgeous rural setting. It provides the ideal backdrop for delivering a nurturing education to the children and community that it serves. Parents and carers have always played a crucial role in educating our children, but this year we are enormously grateful to you all for doing your best to support your children's education at home when the government placed tight restrictions on our movements. The Standards Committee and Full Governing Body have been encouraged to see that our pupils have made great progress this academic year despite these unprecedented challenges, and want to thank and congratulate parents, carers and our amazing staff team for enabling our children to make these important steps forward in their education. Thank you to you all.

Here are just a few things we are thankful for (and excited by!):

- Our 'Good' rating by Ofsted in early in 2021 has stimulated further improvement! The school team implemented initiatives and developed the curriculum to provide a well-considered, deep and broad education for our pupils.
- The last year has stressed the importance of our physical and mental health, in addition to education. We are tremendously grateful to the team at school who have gone the extra mile to adapt and support our pupils to achieve so much this year.
- We look forward to welcoming Ms McClintock to the teaching team, who will be the class teacher for our Year 3/4 class and who has a great passion for sport. We wish Miss Black all the best with the next exciting steps in her career.
- We enjoyed the wonderful accounts from parents and carers who were finally able to visit school to attend the Sports Showcase. It was very special

With thankfulness, courage and love, we strive to improve heart and mind

Jesus said, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst". John 4:13

- for the children to have support for their sporting efforts, and for those attending it provided a welcome sense of school community once again.
- Our school community has lived out its Christian values of **Thankfulness, Courage and Love**, and the enormous success of last week's themed week brought it all to life! We thoroughly enjoyed seeing the photos of the many activities that engaged the children in our Christian vision and values.
 - Our pupil numbers on roll continue to grow, making strides towards our strategic goal of over 100. We thank everyone for their wonderful recommendations and the school team and community for their warm welcome to our new arrivals.
 - The fabulous Chilton Foliat Community Clubhouse recently built (2020) together with the fantastic Chilton Club Childcare team provide an amazing and popular wraparound childcare offering – thank you to everyone who supports, uses and promotes this service.
 - We saw an increase in the popularity and uptake of the nutritious hot meals that are cooked onsite every day for the children by a committed team who understand the needs and preferences of the children.
 - We are enormously grateful for the generosity demonstrated following the launch of the Enrichment Fund to help us provide the best possible start to our children's primary education.
 - The Early Years Garden will have the first phase of its transformation taking place this summer, with huge thanks to The Friends for securing grants and donations and ARK (Action for the River Kennet) for creating an inspiring design for the area. We hope the new safety surface will delight our youngest pupils arriving in September and look forward to sharing the plans in more detail.
 - In addition to securing fibre broadband to the school building, another grant to update the internal school network infrastructure has been confirmed. This will significantly improve the school's IT capability to enable more opportunities for our staff and pupils to achieve their potential.
 - Grants were secured so over the summer some of our kitchenette and toilet facilities in the main school building will be upgraded and the second phase of wiring maintenance completed.
 - We are thrilled the Chilton Chicks toddler group is set to re-start on Mondays from 13th September. The Community Clubhouse is the ideal location for this group, and donations of good quality toys and volunteers are very welcome!

We would also like to draw special attention to this last point. While Year 6s across the country did not do standardised SATs exams, in line with good practise, our pupils at Chilton Foliat sat exams from previous years to enable a smooth transition to their secondary education setting. It would be understandable for those results to reflect the challenges of the last 18 months which our Year 6 pupils have faced. However, the Governing Body is tremendously impressed with their outcomes and we want to congratulate them, and their teachers and parents, on what they have achieved! We are enormously proud of what they have done and what they have shown they are capable of. We wish them all well on the next stage of their education. We hope they will go on with their thirst for knowledge and growth mindsets into their new educational settings and would love them and parents to keep in touch!

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We look forward to a time when Governors can engage with the school in more ways once again. We will be grabbing paint brushes and tackling a few outdoor projects over the summer hoping to making things look even more fresh and wonderful for the new academic year!

Thank you all again for all your support, and let's hope the second half of the school's 250th anniversary will have even more successes. In the meantime, we hope that you and your families enjoy a well-deserved happy and healthy summer holiday.

With thankfulness courage and love,

On behalf of the Governing Body and the whole school team,

Mrs Sam Wolcough and Mrs Katie Turner

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