



*"Choose the right path"*

**St James' C of E Infant and Nursery School**

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**Head Teacher: Mrs Alex Moore**

**Deputy Head: Miss Stephanie Sapsed**

**Governors' Newsletter Summer 2023**

Firstly, the Governors would like to say a big thank you to Mrs. Moore, as we come to the end of her first year as Head Teacher at St. James. It's been a year of change, of challenges, and of progress. Mrs. Moore has well and truly settled into the school, and as Governors we are very pleased with all she has achieved over the past year.

Back in September, Mrs. Moore outlined her priorities for the school year. Reading and writing were two key areas to focus on. Throughout the year, staff have attended training, external experts have visited the school and changes have been made to the way reading and writing are taught. The library has also had a makeover, with lots of new books, and each classroom now has a cozy reading area. Staff have encouraged children to read for pleasure, with access to more books and giving out reading awards in Collective Worship.

All of this has paid off. The outcomes this year in the Key Stage 1 reading, writing and phonics tests have improved significantly. A high percentage of children achieved a Good Level of Development (GLD) at the end of the Early Years, and in many areas the school is performing well above the national average. This is thanks to the hard work of all the staff, the parents and of course the children themselves – we are very proud of all the children for always trying their best.

***Governing Body Meetings and Visits***

The Governing Body have met in full twice this term, with smaller committees meeting to discuss finance, health and safety and safeguarding. At our meetings we discuss the progress being made in the school and any challenges that

are being faced, we review policies and procedures, and we look at how money is being spent.

At our last meeting we also met Miss Coulthard, who will be joining the St. James' family in September as our new Reception teacher. She is enthusiastic, passionate and looking forward to getting to know her new class.

During the Summer term a lot of Governors have been visiting the school to monitor different subject areas, including Maths, English, Geography, Early Years and Art.

These visits give us chance to speak with the subject lead about how the curriculum is being developed and delivered. Best of all, we get to meet with the children and look at some of their work. While the improvement in test scores is fantastic for the school, there's much more to it than percentages. It's lovely to hear the children talk about what they enjoy about school and see how enthusiastic and proud they are of their work. As always, we have been impressed with the children's behavior during our visits.

***Farewell Year 2s!***

It's that time of year when we say farewell to our Year 2 children who will be leaving us soon. We wish all the children the very best, and we know they will continue to make us proud at St James' by "Choosing the right path".

***Have a lovely Summer***

The Governors would like to thank you all for your support throughout the term. We hope that you have a lovely Summer break. See you in September!

**St James' C of E Infant and Nursery School Governing Body**

Mrs P Smith (Chair)  
Mrs K Skelton (Vice Chair)  
Mr B O'Kane  
Mrs C Brown (Clerk)

Mrs A Jones  
Mrs A Moore  
Miss S Sapsed

Mrs H Beck  
Mrs A Spencer  
Ms K Kinrade

Mrs G Williams  
Ms S Hetherington  
Ms K Hawksworth



