



Winwick CE Primary School
Myddleton Lane, Winwick
Warrington, WA2 8LQ
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Telephone: (01925) 630995

24th July 2023

END OF YEAR LETTER FROM OUR GOVERNING BODY

Dear Parents, Carers and Staff,

At the end of our very busy school year, we are always very pleased to share and update you of the many successful outcomes and achievements our children and staff have made, as well as updating you of ongoing priorities as a school.

Learning Outcomes

From September 2022, our focus has been on continuing to ensure all our children remain on track with their learning objectives. National SATS tests were held for Y1, Y2, Y4 and Y6 children and we are extremely pleased with the focus and effort the children have put into them, supported by the staff team and their families. Our Key Stage 2 writing was moderated by the Local Authority and we have also worked with an External Consultant from EY2P to moderate our judgements in Reception. Across all year groups, children have completed their end of year assessments which supported our teacher assessment judgments which were shared on children's end of year reports.

Children's attendance into school over the year is at 96.3%. Our Attendance Officer has continued to work with the Warrington Borough Council Education Welfare Officer (EWO), which will continue next academic year.

Health and Wellbeing

Our continued focus on health and well-being remains our utmost priority and - after gauging feedback through pupil and family surveys - the staff team are very pleased to introduce an even wider choice of extra- curricular and after school activities from September.

The offering during the school day has included: swimming lessons (Y4-Y6); weekly brass lessons (Y4/Y5) and guitar and keyboard lessons; residential; day trips for all year groups; Sports Week; Arts Weeks, one of which had a focus on Diversity; World Book Day; Coronation Crafts; as well as attendance at school football and rugby tournaments; events linked with Hope Academy – Ethos Days and Y5 Quiz Kids. We've also welcomed visitors to school, including a visit by a local Magistrate, Olympic Gymnast Daniel Purvis, St Helen's Chamber (careers event), Reverends Pat Gray and Chris Stafford and other members of our local churches. We have also provided additional transition opportunities for our New Reception cohort who will be joining us in September 2023.

This year, Reverend Pat Gray has supported a number of members of our school community with their Confirmation, including children in Year's 5 and 6, as well as Mrs Duckett and Miss Kenyon. Bishop Beverley of Warrington lead the confirmation services which were held at Liverpool Cathedral and Newchurch Parish Church, Culcheth. We thank Rev. Pat for her support and hope to offer Confirmation classes again next academic year.

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We have also seen a range of clubs after school, as well seeing our popular breakfast and after school clubs once again providing a vital service for our children and busy working families, with numbers of children attending increasing this year.

This year, we had the appointment of Mrs Jill Mills as our own dedicated Health and Well-being lead, this has had a hugely positive impact for our whole school community, with Mrs Mills working with children, families and staff to support their mental health and wellbeing. In addition to this, Mrs Mills has now qualified as an ELSA and has been utilising these skills to support our children; something that she will continue to build on next academic year.

Finance and Facilities

A key element for governance is ensuring our budgets are closely managed and that our building and facilities provide the best possible learning environment for all. At the end of July 2023, the school budget remains in a reasonable position after our prudent management of funds and overheads, this means we remain positive and stable.

Over the coming months we will continue to work on cost reduction of our energy bills looking also at ways to ensure our building is as eco-friendly as possible. Our Eco Team have continued to pioneer this in school and are looking forward to developing this next academic year.

Further submission of a funding bid to Liverpool Diocese for Phase two of our development plans, to re-configure the interior of KS1 classrooms and toilets, will be pursued in Autumn 2023 with an updated application request.

We continue also to work alongside the Parish Council to consider future options for the relocation of the school carpark which would give us the much-needed increase in our footprint and ability to extend our building and play areas.

Governance

An end of year summary provides the opportunity to share updates on our staff and governor team also.

Governors, continue with their regular visits into school and attend both statutory and additional training and development sessions, with a continued focus also on the school curriculum, where we work alongside the staff subject leads to increase governor knowledge and inputs. Preparation for pending Ofsted and SIAMs Inspections has involved meeting with our local cluster schools and the Liverpool Diocese support team.

Full governing body meetings - with three supporting committee meetings - have been held termly in school additionally offering optional remote access to meetings via MSTEams. Attendance has averaged 83% across all meetings, from our 12 members including observer Mr Henaghen.

Our end of year impact analysis also shows governors have completed over 97 hours on specific governor training with over 240 collective hours spent in meetings and governor business.

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We currently have a foundation governor vacancy and are seeking to recruit – we very much welcome enquiries from interested parties. If you are interested in joining our Governor team, please contact the school office who will arrange for a member of our Governors to contact you.

Our Staff

The Summer term saw us give a very warm welcome to Mrs Duckett's as our new Head teacher, as we said good-bye to Mrs Dymond. Mrs Duckett completed her Christian Leadership course with Liverpool Diocese last summer and has started her National Professional Qualification for Headship (NPQH). She also continues to do consultancy work as a Quality Assurance Tutor for Mersey Borough Initial Teacher Training SCITT, as well as continuing to work with Warrington Borough Council as an Evidence Lead. Mr Henaghen will continue in his role as Acting Deputy Headteacher in the Autumn term and remains a key member of our Senior Leadership Team. The recruitment of a substantive Deputy Head teacher is planned to take place next academic year. Mrs Mather, our SENDCo, is also a key member of our Senior Leadership Team and ably supports our Headteacher and Acting Deputy Headteacher.

We are delighted to extend a very warm welcome to new staff team members Miss Dennett and Miss Perry, who join our teaching team in September. They have already spent time with their new classes during our Transition Week and are looking forward to officially joining our team in September.

We would also like to take this opportunity to say thank you and send well-wishes to members of our team who will be leaving us at the end of the academic year. Firstly, to Mr Preston, who has been a huge support for both our Year 1 and Year 5 classes, stepping in first on supply and then ending the year as part of our team. We thank Mr Preston for everything that he has done to support our children and wish him well on his next endeavors as he moves to another school to teach in Year 6. Next, we would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Emilie Woodroffe, who leaves us in July. She has supported so many of our children across Key Stage 2 in French for a number of years and we thank her for her expertise and commitment - particularly during Covid, where she continued to support our children with their learning. Finally, we would like to thank Mrs Helen Higham, our School Cook, who leaves us to begin a new career working in a nursery. We really appreciated the hard work and dedication to providing our children with delicious meals and theme days, as well as introducing our 'Top Table Award'. We wish her well in her new role. Mrs Giblin will also be starting her Maternity Leave during the summer break and we wish her well for this time and look forward to welcoming her back towards the end of next academic year.

As the summer term draws to a close, we take this opportunity to share huge thanks to our whole team here at Winwick for all their very hard work and achievements working with the children this year.

To our class teachers and TAs we thank every member of the team for all hard work and dedication. With thanks also well our previous Head teacher Mrs Dymond, along with our new Head Teacher Mrs Duckett, our now acting Deputy Head Mr Henaghen and Mrs Mather our SENDCo.

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We, of course, also couldn't function as a school without our support staff – our breakfast and after school club team, office and finance, kitchen and facilities teams – again all who have played an integral role in the school's success this year.

Last, but by no means least, we offer our thanks and appreciation to our children, families and our wonderful PTFA team for the exciting program of events and activities and fund raising that has been done this year. This year, they have donated approximately £10,000 towards our exciting new Library project, which our school council supported Mrs Duckett to design. We are pleased to announce that our new library will be being installed during the summer break, ready for a grand opening in September.

To our children we say a huge congratulations and well done for all their hard work and perseverance and in making very good progress - we also say a huge well done for their exceptional behaviour in school and within the community also.

And finally, to our brilliant children of Year 6 as well of those children and families who leave us for pastures new - we say a fond farewell and a huge Thank you and well done for the impact you have made during your time with us at Winwick. We will miss you all and send you all our love and sincere best wishes for the future.

On behalf of Mrs Duckett and the school governor team, I wish you all a very **safe and happy Summer** and look forward to seeing you all, rested and refreshed, for an exciting new school term in September 2023.

With our very best wishes,

Jackie Neal

Jackie Neal - Chair of Governors
For and on behalf of Winwick CE School Governor Team

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