December 2023

Dear staff, parents and children,

As this busy term draws towards a close, I wanted to get in touch on behalf of the governing board to thank everyone for all you have done this term. To the staff - for their dedication to provide such a caring and nurturing environment for the children to thrive in, for inspiring lessons and all the extra miles they go to create wonderful experiences and lasting memories for the children. To all the parents - for their support with trips, performances and events, as well as the children’s learning at home too. And to the children - for all their hard work and effort in everything they turn their hands to. A huge thanks to the fantastic PTA too. The events and initiatives put into place go above and beyond and is hugely valued and appreciated.

I’d like to also thank the governing board for all the work they put in as well. Especially those that you see regularly around the school and in the community. A key function of a governing body is to engage with its stakeholders, and we want to be available to listen to staff, parents and children as much as possible. While you might see some familiar faces at school events, we appreciate you may not be aware who currently sits on the governing board. As such, we have created a ‘**Who’s Who’** leaflet (inspired by the PTA!) to introduce ourselves to you all. So that if you do see any of us around, you know who we are and can ask us any questions, have a little chat and connect over the school.

One particular aspect we would like to gauge everyone’s opinion on is the school’s vision. The vision ‘Challenge, Enjoy, Respect, Succeed’ has been in place for a number of years, so we need to consider whether it is time for an update or if in fact it still remains an appropriate vision for Russell. As such we will be sending a brief questionnaire to all stakeholders in the new year to canvas everyone’s thoughts.

But for now, on behalf of all the governors, I’d like to wish you all a very happy Christmas and hope you and your families have peaceful, restful and enjoyable festive period.

Best wishes

Richard Gallagher
Chair of Governors