



Building the
Foundations
for Success

Robertswood School

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Summer Term Governor Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers

As we come to the end of another busy year at Robertswood it is good to look back at all the children and staff have achieved. The children have enjoyed a wide range of trips, sports, arts week and the year 6 play to mention just a few of the activities. Academically, the introduction of new assessment criteria represents the biggest change in primary education since the new National Curriculum was introduced in 1988 and has been a challenge for schools across the country. Teachers at Robertswood have worked extremely hard to embed the new system, but it will take several years before this is fully established and we can expect to see more changes nationally in the coming months.

Fortunately however, Robertswood has its own robust systems for measuring pupil progress and as governors we are able to monitor these, not only from Mr Richings' reports, but also by visiting the school and talking to teachers and pupils. It is pleasing to see that progress in Maths has really improved across the school this year. Both pupils and teachers tell us that this is due to the introduction of a simplified approach to calculations. Another change has been the introduction in all subjects of 'Steps to Success'. At a recent meeting with the School Council a pupil explained to us how the new method encourages pupils to challenge themselves to go further and complete all the steps, thus ensuring a fuller understanding of the topic.

Many of you will have followed the government's changing stance on forcing all local authority schools to become academies. In Buckinghamshire there is a strong feeling that all schools benefit from collaborative working although not all will want to become part of a Multi Academy Trust at this time. Over the coming year the governing body, together with Mr Richings, will be working with Bucks Learning Trust to ensure that Robertswood is well positioned to take advantage of the partnership opportunities which will give the greatest benefit to our pupils and staff.

As governors one of our roles is to work with Mr Richings and his team to update the school's Vision Statement. Many of you will have seen the revised Vision which is up in the school reception.

ROBERTSWOOD SCHOOL – OUR VISION

We are committed to providing an outstanding education within a secure and happy environment, where each child is valued and equipped with the necessary skills, knowledge and understanding to become caring, confident and successful individuals.

Last week I had the privilege of accompanying a visitor on a tour of the school with two of the House Captains and was able to see and hear from these two confident and articulate pupils how much they have enjoyed their time at the school. The children not only explained the importance of the Star Values in school life but modelled many of them. I am confident that the foundations these young people have built at Robertswood will carry them successfully through secondary school and beyond.

We send our best wishes to all our Year 6 children and their families. We wish you an enjoyable and successful time at secondary school and we hope you will keep in touch and let us know how you are getting on. For those staying with us next year we wish you a good summer and we look forward to seeing you in September.

Erica

Erica Penman, Chair of Governors

