

News from the Governors



April 2023

We hope all our staff and families had a restful Easter break. Welcome back - our summer term is always a time when we showcase our children's achievements in sports and arts. We hope that as many families as possible will join us for our Sports Week and Arts Week. Please refer to the dates card on our website and the weekly school newsletter.

Firstly we would like to say a huge congratulations to our wonderful choir. Last term they won the **Let's Sing** competition held at the Hexagon theatre in Reading on 24th March. There were fourteen choirs taking part including children and adult choirs and our school choir won the Junior choir category. The judges also commented on the enthusiasm and support our children showed to all the other choirs. We all thoroughly enjoyed the evening. This is the second time we have entered this local competition and we have come home with the trophy on both occasions. What an achievement – a testament to all the hard work the children and staff have put into singing. Thank you parents for supporting your child, they are a credit to you and our school.

Mrs Miriam Sheikh has joined our governing body as a Co-opted Governor. Miriam brings experience in Special Needs and financial administration; we look forward to working with her.

I am sure you are all aware of the comments in the news regarding the role of Ofsted in schools. Ofsted has been our school inspection system for 20+ years, its framework and expectations change regularly, but whatever our own views on the efficacy of this system, it will remain part of the Department of Education's processes which we as a school are required to adhere to.

You will all be aware that Calcot Infants was recently inspected (we are still waiting for Calcot Juniors). The report was officially released towards the end of March and was circulated to parents for information. For all sorts of reasons the governing body felt it was necessary to delay sharing our response on the conclusion of the visit with you all, however we do now feel that we want to celebrate the outcome.

The visitors to the school were very impressed with the excellent work of the teachers and support assistants. They were delighted by the good manners of the children, impressed by the resources the school had bought and were using, particularly in phonics and reading. They recognised the hard work and planning of senior management, and their overall impression from the three days they were in school was one of hard work, consistent teaching, excellent behaviour and thorough planning. They felt that the school's approach to safeguarding was excellent and that children were kept safe and worked in a happy and secure environment. They found that much of what goes on in the school is outstanding, particularly in Early Years and Behaviour and Attitudes. Sincere congratulations and many thanks to our hard working staffing team!

Julia Kidd & Joe Lally
Joint Chairs of Governors