



Dear Parents and Carers,

13th July 2023

As the academic year draws to a close, it is time to update you on the work of the school's Governing Board and to reflect on another fantastic year.

As you know we have been working in partnership with the Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust (DMAT) for the past 18 months. Having consulted with staff members and the school's stakeholders, we decided that joining DMAT is no longer the best option for our school.

So we are excited to be looking ahead to the next academic year as a maintained school under the excellent leadership of Mrs Davies. Supporting her in this amazing work has been our fantastic teachers and wider support team including Learning Support Assistants, Senior Administrator and the wider MTB Team. They all consistently go above and beyond in striving for academic excellence and progress along with the wider offer of enrichment opportunities and wrap around care that delivers such outstanding provision. It is testament to the culture and ethos of the team that Mrs Davies has nurtured, that we have had no staff changes this year and this continues into the next academic year.

Our offer across the whole school continues to be both broad and of the highest quality. The results this year in both Key Stage SATS, Phonics Test and Multiplication Test are again simply superb and significantly above National Averages across the board. We have shown that academic excellence can be achieved and sustained in a small rural school. It is in part because of this that our reputation within West Devon continues to grow and we attract ever more in-year transfers from local schools.

We are delighted to welcome 12 new pupils into our Reception class in September, the highest Year R intake we have had for several years. Against the national backdrop of a low birth year, this is a huge achievement. We start next year with over 70 pupils, our highest number on roll since before the Covid pandemic. To cater for the continued growth of the school we have equipped The Hub as a fully functional fourth classroom to give us the space we need to teach flexibly now and grow in the future.

It is now time for us to expand our Governing Board to reflect this exciting next chapter. Mrs Davies and I have had a fantastic response to the recent request for new members to join the Board. These have come from a broad range of stakeholders including both parents and the wider community. Once again this demonstrates the willingness of all those involved in Team MTB to see the school flourish. I will be notifying those who have responded with the formal application details and look forward to welcoming our new Governors on board in due course. I would also like to thank my existing fellow Governors for their support, advice and contribution to the Board and school this past year.

Finally, I would like to thank all of you for playing your part in supporting your child's academic journey, for helping the school be the best it can be and putting your faith in the school's leadership team to deliver the very best outcomes for all of our pupils.

Wishing you all a great summer holiday,

Yours sincerely,

David Petridge
Chair of Governors