



HOVE JUNIOR SCHOOL

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Thursday 9th July 2020

Dear Parents & Carers,

As we approach the end of this extraordinary school year, the Governors would like to take the opportunity to share a few updates with you and wish you all the best for the summer holidays.

Governor News

In February this year we were very sorry to announce that Jeff Nixon, Chair of Governors for 10 years (and a Governor at HJS for 17 years), sadly passed away. Jeff was a great friend and adviser to our school – his counsel and experience are sorely missed.

Recently, Lisa Marshall and Louise Wilkinson were elected as Co-chairs of Governors and look forward to supporting and working closely with Mrs Southern and her team in the coming weeks and months.

This year we also welcomed [David Karp, Anne-Marie Williamson, Ben Scott and Brad Hollick](#) to the board and we are in the process of recruiting further Governors. If you are interested in getting involved, we would love to hear from you. Please visit the [school website](#) for more information.

Awards

At the start of the year we welcomed Ofsted in for a very thorough two-day inspection. We were delighted to retain our [‘Good’](#) rating and to receive such positive feedback from Ofsted. We would like to reiterate our thanks to all the pupils, parents/carers, teaching staff and support staff for their incredible support. As Governors, we have been pleased to see how the recommendations from Ofsted are being implemented across the curriculum and we will continue to monitor this over the coming year.

In November, our [Inclusion Quality Mark \(IQM\)](#) award was reconfirmed and we also became a [School of Sanctuary](#). We are extremely proud of these as they are a reflection of our school ethos and culture. Our thanks go to everyone who worked so hard to make the school a welcoming and safe place to learn.

Reflections

Finally, the last few months have, of course, been an extraordinary time and we are very mindful of the pressure that the school has been under as they provide onsite learning for children of key workers, vulnerable children and more recently Year 6, as well as providing online resources for all year groups. The move from ‘life as normal’ to ‘life in lock down’ was very swift and our sincerest thanks goes to all the teaching and support staff for their dedication and commitment in this time.



Hove Junior School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

We will continue to support the school as it reflects on the last few months of teaching and looks for ways for further develop and strengthen online provision, as needed for the new school year. We recognise that it has been particularly challenging for children with additional learning needs and are reviewing the results of a recent survey that aimed to capture feedback and suggestions from parents and carers as to what improvements could be made – we welcome further feedback once the school re-opens more fully in the autumn.

It has been a very difficult and uncertain time for many families. Please be assured that as a Governing Body we have every confidence in the school's commitment and ability to put in place processes that support the safety and wellbeing of everyone at school.

Finally, we have also been incredibly impressed by the fantastic work that our pupils have produced over the year, not least of all over the last 16 weeks which have been especially challenging. We never fail to be impressed by the creativity and hard work they put in. We have missed visiting their classrooms and seeing their work first hand but look forward to doing so again in the future.

To our Year 6 pupils, we wish you all the very best in the next stage of your education. To all other year groups, we look forward to seeing you again soon.

We hope you have a safe and enjoyable summer break.

Kindest regards,

HJS Governors



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