

Selsted Governor Newsletter – Summer 2020



Selsted during COVID-19

As you will all know, our school has not been shut during the pandemic lockdown. Our staff have continued to work extremely hard, setting multiple versions of home learning for every different need within our school as well as planning and training. A school is like a swan at the best of times, with more work going on below than is ever seen above, and this has been amplified during this unprecedented situation as all staff work hard to support all aspects of our school community, not just the day to day educational needs.

As a Chair of Governors I am continually having to bite my tongue when I hear others saying that schools/teachers are 'on holiday' or 'not doing much'. Whilst I can't comment on other schools, I do know that this is very far from being true at Selsted and I am proud of the way that staff and children have adapted to new ways of working.

As well as managing their jobs, staff are also just as subject to the same anxieties and uncertainty as other key workers and have worked tirelessly through school holidays and bank holidays to make sure the school stays open.

As we move into a new phase, Selsted has been one of the few schools to quickly embrace getting as many children back to school as possible even though we do not have the space or number of staff to make this easy. As always, our children's education and safety comes first. Staff know their classes very well and are ready to make sure that, from September, any gaps in knowledge are addressed.

To enable this to happen the staff need to rest, recuperate and plan properly. For this reason we do not feel that continuing to open the school in the summer holidays is necessary or feasible. We want our community at Selsted to enjoy a holiday free from worksheets and worry.

As a Governing Board we have not stopped working either. Meetings have continued in a virtual way and we have been involved in all decisions made as Mrs Woodgate and staff navigated an unprecedented situation.

Overall, I hope that you will agree that Selsted has approached lockdown with the indomitable spirit and Christian values that our children know so well. We will all look back on this time and be proud of how we all coped.

Jen Ibbetson-Revell

Chair of Governors

Celebrating 2019/20

Although this academic year has given us challenges that we never imagined, the governors would like to highlight some of the amazing things that HAVE happened this year as well as looking forward to those things that WILL happen once the situation returns to normal.

Achievement and Progress data – even though KS2 SATs did not happen we hope to have good end of year data based on assessment of work throughout the year. We know that our year 6 would have performed brilliantly on the day but their work has consistently been strong.

Being part of the journey towards developing the next generation of amazing Headteachers – although we are saying goodbye to Mr Flack, we are so proud to have been part of his journey. We know that he will be an excellent Headteacher.

Winning at Sport – we set ourselves a little target at the beginning of the year to win more medals at sport so that our children could experience being part of a winning team. As well as team success in basketball and..... there have also been individual successes in Trampolining.

New Library and Wellbeing room – we have been successful in bidding for the funds to convert the WW2 air raid shelter into a library and wellbeing room and we were hoping it was going to be ready for September until lockdown happened. Its our project for the new academic year!

Selsted's 150th Anniversary – next year sees Selsted CE School turn 150 and we plan on celebrating all year.

Governor Vacancies

The Governing Board is currently holding 1 vacancy. After a successful recruitment campaign we now have 9 governors in place with room for 1 more.

We would love to receive applications of interest from members of the local community for our Local Authority vacancy. For this vacancy the individual should have no current personal connection with the school (ie they should not be a current parent or grandparent). It is not a necessity to have either education or governance experience as training can be provided but a passion for making sure that all children get the education they deserve as well as a willingness to offer time and personal expertise is desirable.

Please contact the Chair, Jen Ibbetson-Revell or the Headteacher via the school office if you, or someone you know may be interested.