

A Christmas Message from the Governors

After such a positive start to the school year in September when covid restrictions were lifting and a sense of normality was returning, it might feel like we've stepped back a year as we end the term with news of a new variant and a rise in covid cases across the country.

It is testament to Mrs Sandberg and her team, and their careful and pragmatic approach to assessing risk and implementing advice from the Department of Education, that the children have this year been able to end the term enjoying events that are milestones in the primary school calendar - the nativity play, the Christmas lunch, the Christmas fair.

As governors we have scrutinised and approved multiple revisions of the risk assessment documents - sometimes several times a week - and are proud of how the school has managed to balance the risks and continued to safely deliver the curriculum and provide the children with a range of exciting experiences. And we are grateful to you for supporting the school as rules, and plans, have changed.

Many of you will have enjoyed the Christmas market at the weekend. The governors would like to pay tribute to our outstanding Parent Teacher Association and the volunteer committee members who give up their time to organise events for the school community. Governors conduct regular financial benchmarking exercises to compare our school with others and it is clear that the funds raised by our PTA are significantly higher than in other primary schools of comparable size. We know how tight the school budget is, and the tough spending decisions that need to be made to ensure the essentials are covered. The contributions from the PTA - made possible by your attendance at events and your purchases of raffle tickets, second hand uniform and other goodies - positively impact every single child's time at Borough Green by enabling the staff and children to benefit from equipment, experiences, and improvements to the school environment that are out of reach of the school's budget.

We have recently published our annual governance statement on the school website, where you can read more about the work of the governing body and we encourage anyone interested in becoming a governor to get in touch.

On behalf of all the governors, we wish you a peaceful Christmas holiday and a happy and healthy 2022.

Catherine O'Neill and George Booth"

Co-Chairs of Governors
Borough Green Primary School