

Kind, Respectful, Honest, Resilient & Inclusive

Dear Parents, Carers and Staff

The joy this year has been a return fully to daily school life as we know it, enabling all pupils to experience both the academic and enriching educational experiences that primary education at Stocks Green School has to offer.

There have been challenges throughout the year and progress made to restore school to pre-covid status and move it forward, providing an education which will prepare our young people for the future.

Under the leadership of our new Headteacher, Peter Hipkiss, the staff have risen magnificently to these challenges, constantly going above and beyond to achieve them. In conjunction with the Senior Leadership Team (SLT), governors have regularly checked in with staff to ensure their wellbeing.

Strategic Priorities

Governors have reflected upon the impact achieved over the past academic year and the progress made within the school.

A positive school community, with a culture of respect, kindness and good behaviour has grown during the year leading to happier children and better educational outcomes, evidenced in the parent and pupil surveys undertaken by governors and in the assessment data. Governors have listened to the parent and pupil voice and are moving forward with actions to further improve the offer available to Stocks Green children.

The major focus for improvements this year has included IT, Safeguarding, Phonics and Reading. Governors have rigorously examined and agreed the new, proposed initiatives in discussion with the Senior Leadership Team. With careful budgeting and the incredibly generous financial support of the PTA the school has been able to implement them.

With the support of the staff, Peter Hipkiss has successfully led these initiatives; the upgrading of IT provision to provide the best learning opportunity possible; the improvement of safeguarding, with additional grounds security, and the purchase of the CPOMS system for recording and tracking safeguarding issues which included training for all staff; a complete overhaul of the phonics programme resulting in the purchase of the Sounds Write system to provide the best basis for learning for new entrants. The system progresses through the school providing consistency; a new system of teaching reading with book corners being radically updated to make them attractive areas for children to read which is already bearing fruit in children's enthusiasm for reading.

All these initiatives have been extremely successful with the School's Advisor applauding them and commenting that safeguarding is exemplary.

Safeguarding

This year has seen the introduction of coloured lanyards for all staff and visitors to Stocks Green School. The colours and wording on the lanyards denote the position and level of security for each wearer and have been introduced to and shared with pupils. A safeguarding leaflet for visitors, together with Safeguarding guidance displayed on the electronic signing in system, clearly shares the safeguarding expectations at Stocks Green school.

Governors have continued to ensure that the school fulfills the duty of care through its policies and protocols and, training for both staff and Governors. As mentioned above, the School Advisor in his visit report has commented that safeguarding at Stocks Green school is exemplary.

Safeguarding training for both staff and Governors on legal duties has included the following:

- Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) 2022 - 2023, Department of Education
- Prevent. Gov.UK

Prevent is a key part of the governments contest strategy, its aim is to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. Early intervention is at the heart of “Prevent” in diverting people away from being drawn into terrorist activity. “Prevent” happens before any criminal activity takes place.

Thank you to the PTA

Stocks Green PTA were also able to offer a bigger range of events and experiences once again this year, whilst raising funds to support the learning opportunities for our pupils.

Events this year included Film nights, discos, Christmas fair, free Easter trail, uniform and cake sales, and to end the year a very successful Summer fair.

This year’s donations, so far, have amounted to £11,200 and have been used to support school in the following ways, Robotics, Pond renovation, Willow Dome maintenance, Noticeboard and individual class rooms. We await the final amount raised at the Summer Fair.

A huge thank you to Lucy Gabriel (Chair) and her team, Eve Cox (Secretary) Rob Florendine (Treasurer), Charlotte Ovenell, Sally Meadows, Alex Wright, Katie Cross, Joss Johnstone, Susie Wilson, Emma Tickner, and Rachel Hall. Also thank you to parents and carers who stepped in to volunteer at the various events.

And finally.....

We are delighted with the leadership demonstrated by Mr Hipkiss this year, who together with the support of the staff, parents, carers, governors and the school community has successfully introduced many new initiatives. As a result Stocks Green Primary school is a happy thriving educational community which the governors are proud to be a part of.

There are many new initiatives for the next academic year and governors look forward to partnering with the school to achieve them.

Take Care and Stay Safe

How to contact us

If you would like to contact the Governors to raise any issue in confidence, you can do so by letter via the School Office, please address correspondence to Rob Chewter, Chair of Governors, or by email: governors@stocks-green.kent.sch.uk

For more information, visit our Governors section on the school website:

www.stocksgreenprimary.co.uk/governors

Governor’s photos can also be found in the school Entrance Hall.