

Cheswardine Primary and Nursery School

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Reach for the Stars

8.12.23

Dear Parents/Carers

Goodbye and Thankyou

This week has seen the ending of our Chair of Governors, James Cartwright's, term of office. He has worked extremely hard as Chair of Governors and a governor and chair for Hinstock School prior to the Federation.

He was instrumental in enabling us to federate in December 2019 and has always been committed to doing his absolute best for the children in our communities. He sees a village school as integral to the community and really understands the challenges we face in keeping our individual identities and maintaining our unique roles as village schools. James was a supportive governor who challenged me as the Head, staff and other governors to do the best they could to improve the education we offer the children and always do the best for them.

The school community probably doesn't always appreciate the role of governors in managing the school and maintaining their vision, aims, safety, standards and financial stability, but in the background of national and international crises I could not have asked for a better and more supportive Chair of governors. As we navigated COVID James met with myself, senior staff and other governors on a weekly basis, via teams, to check that the schools were doing what they could for the communities and to support leadership in trying to do their best for everyone. It was a difficult time and one for which I cannot express my thanks enough to James for being so supportive throughout it all.

We have also had quite a few OFSTED inspections and monitoring visits with James as our Chair and every one has been positive with leadership and governance always being classed as strong. I have enjoyed the fact that when faced with the pressures of an inspection I can rely on James to lead the governors through the meetings and come out strongly. This year both schools have had two full inspections and are graded good with lots of positive comments about our caring community and family atmospheres. James has a clear vision of a village school and he has worked hard to make sure these are reflected across the Federation, this can be seen in those reports.

I would like to formally thank James on behalf of all the pupils, parents, staff and governors for his dedication and commitment over the last few years to both our schools and wish him every success in the future. Please come back and visit us whenever you can.

Yours sincerely

REWilliams

Rachael Williams (Executive Headteacher)

Goldstone Federation



Cheswardine Primary

Together we SHINE

Hinstock

Primary School
and Nursery School

and Hedgehogs Nursery