



19 December 2019

Dear Parent/Carer,

Interim Executive Board (IEB) Update

Following our letter to you on 7th November, the IEB wanted to let you know what has happened this term and the plans for the future.

Some parents may already be aware that Mrs Corbett is leaving us after 6 years and we thank her for her service to the school and wish her well for the future. The Y6 Class will be taught by an experienced teacher Mrs Conway next term.

The recruitment of a substantive Headteacher is underway and the IEB hope to appoint the successful candidate by the end of January 2020.

The current interim arrangements will continue next term and the IEB are grateful for the hard work of Senior Leaders in making progress on a significant number of issues across the school. Throughout the Autumn Term, Senior Leaders have worked closely with Phase Leaders, who have made rapid progress on school improvement priorities. Phase leaders are as follows:

- Mrs Southern - Phase 1 Lead supporting EYFS and Year 1.
- Mrs Aldridge - Phase 2 Lead supporting Year 2 and Year 3.
- Mrs Harvey - Phase 3 Lead supporting Year 4 and Year 5.
- Mrs Dawson - Phase 4 Lead supporting Year 6.

Further improvements to the school environment have been undertaken. Following representation from pupils, original cloakrooms have been improved and extra cloak pegs installed into the Y3 and Y4 classrooms.

The much improved Website is now operational; Marvellous Me is proving a hit with parents and will prove even more useful in terms of improved communication. The Facebook page is built but is not yet live to parents as the school is currently seeking renewed photograph consent; once completed we will announce the launch. The IEB hope you find communication between home and school much improved including access to the school office.

Senior Leaders and staff are working hard to implement the new curriculum which is going well; it is designed to support individual pupil's learning in a cohesive and systematic way enabling pupils to build on previous knowledge and to use basic skills

across all areas of the curriculum. Please check the website for developments.

After consultation with staff, a new reading scheme has been introduced to better identify progress and create a familiarity for all pupils as they progress through the school to Y6. A new phonics scheme has been introduced in KS1.

All school library books have been audited and all classes now have a planned library session each week which will support our aims to improve reading. Reading areas have been created in KS2.

All reading books have been matched to individual pupil interests and stage of learning so that a love of reading can be fostered. Parents helping and encouraging a love of reading at home is of enormous benefit to pupils.

We are looking to raise the profile of the school in the local community and to share our ambition to increase the number of parents/carers who chose to send their children to our school. If you have any ideas or suggestions to help with that then please do let us know at the School Office.

The school hosted a visit from Mr Richard Crane the Head of Education for Durham and Councillor Tracie Smith last week which went well. The visit was to see first-hand the improvements and to explore opportunities of further partnership working. Watch this space!

It only leaves the IEB to wish staff parents/carers and pupils a joyous Christmas and a peaceful New Year and we look forward to welcoming the children in January 2020.

Yours faithfully

Interim Executive Board of Chester Le Street C.E. Primary School