

# END OF YEAR NEWSLETTER

July 20, 2020

## A year of Innovation, Solidarity (...& a rap song)



*Meldreth Primary School in the 1950s*

### Supporting our school to navigate an unprecedented time

We are reaching the end of another academic year, yet this year has been **like no other**. We have seen everything we thought we knew put to the test. Those working in education have been at the forefront, providing care for children whose parents are keyworkers. They have worked tirelessly, across the country, to provide a safe and positive atmosphere for those children. The task of adhering to the ever-changing guidance and welcoming children back into school has been and will continue to be a mammoth

one for school leaders. Not only have we achieved this thus far at Meldreth, but also we have been able to open our doors to more children than any other school locally. Whilst many others have battled to maintain basic provision, our school always strives for better in upholding our vision of delivering outstanding educational provision. It has become apparent how agile, innovative, and creative Meldreth Primary is. We have all been amazed to see how proficient the children have become at interacting with software applications, tablets and laptops, accelerating pupils' capability using Google Classroom and various learning channels. This could be the first step for many of them becoming the experts of the future!



### Stakeholder focus

Stakeholder view has remained crucial to good governance. This year we have conducted a parent survey, as well as a very comprehensive staff survey, plus a post lockdown staff survey. This enables school leaders to identify any areas for improvement whilst understanding what works well. As a board, it enables us to evidence as well as build upon our strategic priorities. Please see the [outcomes from our parent survey](#) on our school website.

## Improving and providing outstanding education for children in the local area- Preschool focus

We have continued our focus on providing excellent education for local children by focusing on some of the youngest members of our community.

- Governors and senior leaders took on the task of looking at Early Years provision in Meldreth and the surrounding area and the ways in which we could support continued high-quality provision and provide further stability.
- As a result, we voted to encompass the pre-school into Meldreth Primary, as you will have seen from our Newsletter and [school website](#).

Even in the midst of a crisis, our school takes opportunities to grow. We believe this will enhance the provision; ensuring the village not only maintains the important presence of a Preschool, but also that our school raises attainment for our early years pupils and provides a more fluid transition into school for children.

## Governor recruitment

Our Board of Governors at Meldreth Primary School is seeking to recruit one new governor to complete our team. Being a school governor is a challenging but hugely rewarding role. If you would like to find out more or know someone who can commit time and interest in the school, we would love to hear from you. Contact [chair@meldreth.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:chair@meldreth.cambs.sch.uk)

Typically, governors spend 5 to 10 hours per month on governor duties; attending two meetings per term and coming to these with questions about the reports, which school leaders provide. Training is provided.

## Changes in Governing Body membership

We are delighted to announce that two new Governors joined the board this year: Dianne Dow and James Bridges have joined us; both Diane and James have children in school and are dedicated to helping us achieve our strategic goals.

Our new clerk Lisa White, came very highly recommended and has proven to be an exceptional support to the board. If you would like to find out more about our governing board, head over to our school [website](#) where you can read all about us.

## From the Chair...

I have recently been introduced to a quote from Tim Brighouse that has resonated with me:

***'Doctors save lives, while teachers [and all those working in schools] create them: indeed, without either, societies could not claim to be civilised'.***

This feels particularly pertinent in the current landscape and emphasises the job ahead for those in education. I know you will join me in appreciation knowing that at Meldreth this will be taken seriously and the children will once again thrive; continuing along their path in education, nurtured by some of the countries most dedicated educators.

The parents and staff of Meldreth have risen and pulled together to create the solidarity and community that we are so proud of. As your Chair of governors, I am immensely proud to be part of this community and thank you all for your support and dedication. We will continue to look forward; embracing the new skills, we have gained from this year, standing us in better stead for what September brings.



Chair of Governors

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## Contact Us

We are always keen to hear the view of parents. Please feel free to tell us what you think at any time. You can contact us by:

- Leaving a note/comment addressed to the Chair of Governors in the school office post box
- Emailing: [chair@meldreth.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:chair@meldreth.cambs.sch.uk)