

Churchdown Parton Manor Junior School
Craven Drive
Churchdown
GL3 2DR
Tel: 01452 713262
Fax: 01452 854593
email: admin@partonmanor-jun.gloucs.sch.uk



Churchdown Parton Manor Infant School &
Pre-School Children's Centre
Craven Drive
Churchdown
GL3 2AG
Tel: 01452 712214
email: admin@partonmanor-inf.gloucs.sch.uk

7th July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

We are now into our third year of Parton Manor Schools' Federation and what a strange few months it's been: closing, opening, distancing, sanitising, following arrows, bubbles and so much more. Our numbers remain good and there are currently 417 on roll (Pre-school, Infants and Juniors) with good numbers expected in September. More homes are being built locally so we anticipate that the demand for school places will remain high and we hope to be the school of choice for many of the families.

The staffing structures and Key Area Teams (groups of subjects) continued to work well – until closure at least! Co-operation across the schools through these Key Area Teams was one of the aims of the Governing Board at the outset and we are delighted to see it working. All this has helped the transition from Infants to Juniors to flow very smoothly and despite the disruption to the children's schooling we hope this smooth transition will continue.

School Governance has continued despite the lockdown and governors have continued to devote time to their own training. Unfortunately, courses have been suspended of late but we are finding online training now. Our meetings (both full board and committees) have continued, via Zoom, but the novelty has now worn off and I will be glad to see people face to face as soon as I can.

Our Governing Board remains strong, although I know that many governors struggle to find time to devote themselves to the role as much as they would like; I would like to thank them all for giving their time so generously. This academic year we have been concentrating on raising the profile of governors in school and talking to the children about what we do and why we do it. This was going very well until the virus appeared, but we will continue as soon as we can.

We continue to evaluate our own work as individual governors and as a board and have worked with Mr Preece and his team to develop our monitoring plan for school improvement. This is now on hold temporarily until school life returns to normal.

This report cannot end without mentioning the heroic efforts of all of the Parton Manor staff to give as many children as possible some stability and education in such difficult circumstances. They have been ably led by the forever professional and energetic Mr Preece and Mrs Smith, whose focus throughout has been to keep the children and the staff safe. The Governing Board was kept

informed throughout, played a full part in the Risk Assessment and fully supported the plans the school made to re-open.

Some of the videos the staff made during lockdown were shared with us and I have to say that the dancing head teacher is forever etched in my memory, closely followed by the piano playing and singing...but I'll get over it!

The Governors feel very proud to have such a privileged role as part of Parton Manor Federation. As we move into our third year we would like to thank you for continuing to entrust your children to the Federation. We wish you all a good summer and a safe return to normal as soon as possible.

Iola Garbett (Chair of Governors), on behalf of the Governing Board.