



# Governor Update

Welcome to the annual Governor Update. This year has been another challenging year for everyone with many ups and downs but we truly believe everyone is doing their best to make things as normal as possible for the children without any detriment to their safety or education – that includes you as parents and carers with the difficult and sometimes seemingly impossible task of home-schooling during various lockdowns.

## 2020-21

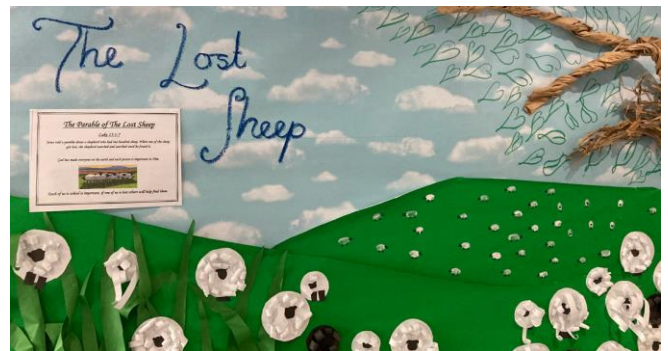
As governors we have managed to continue with all meetings (via zoom) and have even managed some governor visits this term – mostly outdoors in this glorious sunshine we’ve been having at long last.

The purpose of Governor visits is to monitor the school strategy and make checks on critical aspects of the school’s work. It’s also an opportunity for us to see the wonderful school displays the children make around the school.



This year we have had a few governor changes, Suzanne Summerhayes stepped down and we welcomed two new governors – Debbie Littlefair and Ann Lynn. Both Debbie and Ann are proving to be great assets to the team, getting stuck into their training and governor visits. We wish Suzanne all the best and thank her for all the hard work she did during her time with us.

This year we have been able to make checks on various aspects such as; Safeguarding (something we do half termly but in-school checks have also been undertaken), Health & Safety, Reading & Writing monitoring and Healthy living monitoring. We speak to the Headteacher as well as a variety school staff and children.



*School Display - Embedding our school Ethos*

What became apparent from quite a few of the children was how much they missed school when they weren’t able to come in during various lockdowns and the importance of friendship, team work and socialising along with their learning.

In a ‘normal’ year there are national tests (SATs) taken by year 2 and year 6, which give parents, children and the school an idea of how individual children and the cohort have achieved at these critical points during their school life. For obvious reasons, these could not take place in the usual way, however children and staff strived to continue to prepare the subject content for these and they were conducted in a different way this

year, using practice papers along with teacher assessments.

The school were pleased with these results, which show that despite the periods of lockdown, children continued to learn and make progress. Although clearly there have been gaps in learning that teachers have worked hard to identify, and then to fill, the results for 'expected progress' are comparable with previous year's national results.

The staff have looked carefully at where children are 'behind' in their learning and have adapted and rewritten schemes of learning to ensure that these areas are covered next year and in subsequent years.



*School Display – by Year 1*

As you will see from the finance report there is additional funding for catch up learning, Sports and Pupil Premium. Whilst some of this has already been spent, plans for next year include additional classroom staff for small groups or one to one tuition and plans to increase the variety of sports on offer.

We wish year 6 well in their transition to secondary school and hope they are enjoying their last week at Steeple Primary as well as their day trip to Burwell House.

As mentioned in the Star last week we're going to be communicating to parents through the Star from now on with more regular updates. In the mean-time we wish you all a relaxing summer break after another unusual and difficult year.

*Karenza Nutley & Marie Gardner  
Co-chair of governors*

**Finance Report 2020-21**

		Budget	Actual
<b>Income</b>			
Funding & Grants		£805,897	£826,970
Facilities & Services		£8,805	£13,259
Catering		£45,383	£41,138
Donations / Other *		£0	£24,821
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Total Income		£860,085	£906,188
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<b>Expenditure</b>			
Employee Costs	Teaching	£616,338	£631,570
	Support	£84,603	£83,289
	Other	£4,673	£3,390
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		£705,614	£718,249
Premises		£45,313	£40,636
Learning Resources		£20,384	£14,574
Catering (incl. staff)		£52,726	£40,904
Other *		£7,543	£17,930
Bought-in-services		£29,637	£28,620
Direct Revenue Financing		£4,645	£4,633
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Total Expenditure		£865,862	£865,546
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In Year surplus / (deficit)		(£5,777)	£40,642
Brought forward surplus		(£10,097)	(£10,097)
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Carried forward surplus		(£15,874)	£30,545
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July 2021

**CAPITAL****Income**

Funding	£6,239	£10,459
Capitalised Revenue	£0	£0

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	£6,239	£10,459
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**Expenditure**

	£13,696	£11,647
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In Year surplus / (deficit)	(£7,457)	(£1,188)
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Brought forward surplus	£ 21,256	£21,256
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Carried forward surplus (deficit)	£13,799	£20,068
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**Commentary**

Our overall surplus this year is an improvement on last year although it must be noted that a significant proportion of this surplus (just under £30k) is unspent Pupil Premium, Sports Premium and some Catch-up Premium funding due to the school being closed to many pupils for a large proportion of the financial year which runs from 1 April – 31 March. Please note the unspent surplus has been ring fenced to be spent on the relevant areas during 2021-22.

Other Costs (\*) are always higher than the budget due to how we account for trips. This includes the trip expenditure/refunds where trips are cancelled. Both trip income and expenditure are not budgeted at the beginning of the year as these are always cost neutral.

We continue to monitor our finances half termly and the school have plans in place and have already begun to spend the carried forward Premiums to help the pupils get the support required.