



## Governors' Christmas Newsletter 2021

Oh dear, this wasn't the end of term any of us had planned or hoped for. We are SO sorry that school had to close abruptly on Monday, with Christmas activities already cancelled. Thank you to all parents and carers for understanding that there really was no option, for everyone's safety and ultimately everyone's Christmas. It was a very tough decision.

We also thank all the school's staff for their dedication and commitment this term, right up to the teachers rallying with fun things for the children to do at home this week. This was yet another example of the staff's flexibility, and it is much appreciated.

As for the children, we hope they stay well and are able to fully enjoy the holiday festivities at home.

### **Priorities and changes**

This term the governors' priorities were to get back to business in person, to check that everyone returning to school was doing okay, to restart visits to observe lessons, and to plan ahead for 2022. Luckily most of this was achieved before we had to go back to online meetings.

There have been some changes to our board. Linda White has left after four years as a governor and Chair, and we thank her very sincerely for all her hard work and effective leadership. We are also very grateful to John Walton for his

contribution over the past few years, and we were equally sorry to have to say goodbye to Katie Metcalfe.

Our new Chair is Barbara Wallis. She lives in the village and is really looking forward to meeting parents, having got to know some of the children through hearing them read. Sylvia Evans has recently joined the board and explains, 'I'm a retired headteacher of a small special school in Merseyside. I loved my work and I finally retired in 2012. I have lived in the village since 2006 (permanently since 2012). I look forward to supporting your school alongside the other governors and the head.'

We also have a new clerk, Andrew Clement, who brings a wealth of education experience to the role and lives just down the road from school. A warm welcome to our newcomers.

### **Opportunities**

We're still keen to find a second **parent governor** and another **foundation governor** with experience of finance. If you or any of your family/friends might be interested, please do get in touch. You can email either [chair@crobyravensworth.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:chair@crobyravensworth.cumbria.sch.uk) or [clerk@crobyravensworth.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:clerk@crobyravensworth.cumbria.sch.uk) and we will be happy to have a chat. These are hugely rewarding roles and offer the chance to help shape how we do things here.

**Please don't assume that this is simply 'not for you'!**

We need a range of voices to thrive as a board and your input might be just what we need! A thought for 2022?

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*We wish you all a  
very safe and Merry Christmas, despite all the  
upheavals, and a happy and healthy New Year!*

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