Bridgetown Primary School
Byron Road
Stratford-upon-Avon
CV37 7JP

Tel: 01789 205092
Email: chairbps@welearn365.com
www.bridgetown.warwickshire.sch.uk

Mr L Jackson
Chair of Governors

It has been lovely to witness the festive activities at Bridgetown that have taken place towards the end of this term. A highlight, as always, was the many members of the school community coming together to support another highly successful FOBS Christmas Fair a couple of weeks ago. For many, this was the perfect way to start the season of goodwill! In addition to the usual Christmas events, the school has also been keen to showcase more of the fantastic work that happens every day. Many parents and carers have shared that they enjoyed taking part in 'Maths Morning' at the end of November, as well as the new opportunity to attend assemblies on Fridays. Prospective parents and carers who attended Open Morning were guided ably by the Pupil Leadership Team, who all agreed were a credit to the school, its values and inclusive atmosphere.

We recognise that recent staffing changes in the school have naturally caused uncertainty to parents and carers. As governors, we monitor, support and challenge the school to assure ourselves that the school continues to provide the best possible education for all our children. This work has included regular link governor visits in several strategic priority areas, including safeguarding and attendance, well-being, behaviour and culture, and inclusion. Our own ongoing monitoring is supported and informed by visits and meetings from external agencies and experts. An example of this would be a recent safeguarding visit from an advisor that found that our current policy and approach at the school are both rigorous and highly effective. Our full governing body continues to meet regularly to ensure that we maintain focus on the correct strategic improvement priorities for the school, robustly considering all the information that is provided to us, as well as seeking further information when needed. All approved minutes are available on the governing body section of the website, and we would invite you to review these to see what we have discussed recently.

We will continue to ensure that we support the school to prioritise staff workload and well-being. Both Jess and Chloe, as our two Well-being Link Governors have supported the successful establishment of a Well-being Committee in school this year. The membership of this committee ensures that a broad range of staff views are heard and shared both with members of the Senior Leadership Team and governors. There was also a successful first, festive well-being event held last week, and it was lovely to hear that many staff members took part and supported this initiative. Another channel for staff to share their views is via a termly well-being survey. The outcomes of these surveys continue to inform overall governor priorities and support.

We are delighted to have welcomed further recent additions to our governing board, expanding and strengthening its skillset. We were pleased to welcome both Robert Kennedy and Larry Coltman as associate governors this academic year. Rob brings a wealth of experience to the team from a financial background and has already had a positive impact on discussions within Finance and Resources Committee meetings this term. Larry will be joining us from January and has extensive experience of contributing to the work of boards in a range of educational settings, as well as a professional legal background. We would like to thank both Rob and Larry for volunteering their time and efforts in support of the school and all its children.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all staff at the school, as well as parents/carers and volunteers for all that they do to support every child in our community, every day. I hope that you all have an enjoyable Christmas break, shared with friends and family, and wish you every success for the New Year.

Yours sincerely

Luke Jackson (Chair of Governors), on behalf of the Governing Body