

Good evening, David,

Thank you for giving us the invitation to join you and the rest of the council at this meeting. It is with regret that I am unable to attend due to being away on holiday.

Firstly, I would like to introduce myself. I am Liam Page, newly elected Chair of Governors at Great Finborough Primary School replacing the longstanding Jamie Warner who has served the school so well over the years. I will make it my aim to serve the school and the local area as well as he has done during his tenure.

The last 12 months have been tough for the school, staff, and pupils as we have dealt with more covid-19 effects and restrictions. During this time, we managed to deliver effective home learning and support for our pupils whilst also leaving the school open to support children of keyworkers and the vulnerable. None of this would have been possible with the hard work and dedication of Stephen Dodd (Headteacher) and his team at the school. They really are a credit to the area and all the governors would like our thanks on record.

The school has reopened in line with the advice from the government and we have been working under limitations to try and keep control of the virus from spreading through the school. Such as, classroom bubbles and using different gates to enter and exit the school. Fortunately, as the severity of the illness has reduced and weather improves, we are able to start opening ourselves up again to more opportunities for the children.

We are very pleased to say that the following activities have been achieved and really enjoyed by children and adults alike.

- All children in the school have been on a visit to Stowmarket Library.
- Green Class have been enjoying welly walks when weather is suitable
- Red Class (Y1/2) has studied the Tudors and visited Lavenham to see how they built their houses. They have also studied the Stone Age, making pictures of woolly mammoths and models of Stonehenge as well as visiting Ipswich Museum to see artefacts and the woolly mammoth there.
- Children in years 4-6 have enjoyed a geography field trip to Flatford Mill and a history trip to Sutton Hoo.
- Older children have also been taking part in external sports tournaments and we have been able to offer some children the opportunity to attend an Ipswich Town match.

Our aim over the rest of the school year is to increase the activities and engage more with the local area. Starting with welcoming back the "Friends" to hold the annual Easter Egg Hunt. We hope this is the start of things to come.

I look forward to presenting the next report in person and hope it will be filled with many more success stories.

Kind regards,



Liam Page

Chair of Governors - Great Finborough CEVC Primary School