

Dear Parents / Carers,

As we come to the end of another school year, I'd like to reflect on it from the perspective of the governing body.

The year has been busy. Students have pursued their academic studies with purpose. They have worked extremely hard and we hope that those who have taken external exams enjoy success and achieve the destinations that they aspire to reach. An important feature of CFBS is its extensive extra-curricular programme offering students a wide range of educational experiences. Art, drama, music and PE are key parts of the life of the school and this year the school has been able to run a number of trips in the UK and abroad. There have been challenges, of course, but the school has managed to navigate them well, thanks in considerable part, to our exceptional staff.

For the past few years our extensive building project has made life at CFBS more complicated. Phase 1, completed in 2020, gave the school wonderful science laboratories and classrooms for maths and humanities. Phase 2 gives the school a state-of-the-art sports hall, purpose-built art and music classrooms and a performance space in a stunning former chapel. These new facilities will be fully operational at the start of next term and will transform the school's provision for sport and creative arts. We will also have a new beautiful central courtyard, landscaped with trees and other planting, providing a glorious social space for students. It has taken us many years, and the hard work and commitment of many individuals, to reach this point. The school finally has exceptional 21st century premises fully befitting an exceptional 21st century school.

The governing body has three core functions: (i) ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction of the school; (ii) holding executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the school; and (iii) overseeing the school's financial performance. Much of our time as governors is spent fulfilling these functions. We meet regularly with the headteacher and members of the senior leadership team to discuss the school, its progress and challenges. We often visit the school, meet with students and parents, and attend school events. We are always struck by the vibrancy and energy of the school community. CFBS is an exciting place and there is much to look forward to. CFBS is an ambitious school with a clear vision and strategic goal: for the school to provide an exceptional education for all its students. As governors, we will continue to play our part in achieving this goal.

I would like to close by thanking everyone who makes CFBS such a success: the students, very much the life blood of the school; our exceptional senior leadership team; our talented and dedicated teaching staff; and our hard-working non-teaching staff. Most particularly thank you to you, the parents and carers, for your continued support of the students and the school. Your support and commitment is greatly appreciated.

I wish you a happy and restful Summer holiday.



Simon Dodds
Chair of the Governing Body