



Essendon C of E (VC) Primary School

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Headteacher: Ms Belinda Canham

18th July 2024

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff and Children,

As we reach the end of another academic year, on behalf of the Governing Body, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Ms Canham and all the staff for their dedication, tireless efforts, hard work and commitment to teach and support the children. We continue to be impressed by the opportunities that they offer the children and their passion for the school and its community. Equally, I must thank you, our parents and carers, for your unwavering support, trust and partnership with the school. Your active involvement in your children's education is paramount to the success of the school.

My personal thanks also go to the members of the Governing Body for all the support and commitment they have given to Essendon School during this last academic year. Through our meetings and monitoring visits we have seen lessons in action, met class teachers, looked at planning and reviewed progress and attainment data. You may also have seen some of us at church services, assemblies, reading with the children and sports events. Whenever the governors visit the school, we are always delighted to see evidence of Essendon's values and visions.

During this summer term there have been enrichment trips, clubs and a variety of sports activities including Sports day, where it was lovely to see so many parents and family members supporting the children. We were proud to have achieved the school Games Gold Mark Award for a second year. Well done to our Year 6 with their SATS results. We are all so proud of the great progress you have made. We look forward to continuing our journey together, striving for excellence in all areas of school life. We remain committed to fostering a nurturing and inspiring environment where every child can flourish.

Thank you to the Friends of Essendon with their fundraising and especially organising a fabulous Summer Fayre and their contribution to the new sandpit in Pantherswood. The children have also been fundraising and raised money in aid of our school charity Hearing Dogs for the Deaf. The school has celebrated British Values in many ways, learning about Leadership and Democracy and other faiths. We have seen the school celebrate Gypsy, Roma and Traveller month, looking at the theme "What does family mean to you". THANK YOU to all the children for being who they are, for their enthusiasm in their learning and for helping to make the school environment the enjoyable place it is.



Sadly, it is also that time of year again when we say farewell to a very special group of children our Year 6 pupils. You have all either individually or collectively achieved so much during your time at Essendon. Year 6 have been wonderful ambassadors for the school and we will miss you all. I would like to send them special good wishes as they leave Essendon and go on to their new senior schools. We hope you leave with fond memories of Essendon and that every single one of you has flourished during your time here.

Lastly, but not least, we have to bid farewell to Ms Canham, our wonderful Headteacher. Ms Canham has been part of the Essendon Team for four years and has worked with us as a SENCo, Class Teacher, Deputy Head and Headteacher. I know you will join with me in thanking Ms Canham for her dedication over the last few years. During her time with us, she has led and supported the staff team and ensured the continued success and development of our school, its staff and pupils. We now look forward to welcoming Mr Urquhart as our new Headteacher in September.

I would like to wish you all a safe and happy summer and hope that you all come back rested and refreshed ready for a new school year in September.

With love and best wishes

P.J Alleyne

Pauline Alleyne
Chair of Governors

