



New Year Message from the Chair of the Interim Academy Board (IAB)

I wrote to you last month about the work of the IAB now that it has started. This month, after our second meeting which had to be held over the Christmas holidays, I wanted to share some of the successes that are coming out of the work of the school as it continues its improvement journey. As a group, we are delighted that:

- Ms. Gill has been appointed as the substantive Headteacher and we welcome the recognition that her hard work on behalf of the school as its Interim Headteacher is taking the school in the right direction.
- The school has been allowed by Ofsted to appoint a Newly Qualified Teacher as this is a sign of good faith about the capacity of the school to improve and its leadership processes.
- The final membership of the IAB has been confirmed now and our details are posted on the school's website.
- We have arranged a programme of Spring term 2018 monitoring visits by the key Portfolio leads in the IAB and this will cover Maths in January (Judith Johnson), Special Educational Needs & Pupil Premium in January (Tracey Heale) and Pupil Voice in February (Sue Hayes).
- Ms. Gill has shared with the IAB the end of year evaluation results of the actions in the School Improvement & Post Ofsted Action Plan and we were pleased to see that there was a lot of Green and that any Reds or Ambers that did exist were all in hand for recovery.
- CAST have agreed that the school should buy into the Devon Library Service which will increase the stock of relevant and reading age related books available for your children. All families are invited to support the school and its drive to increase reading skills by buying a suitable book (fiction or non-fiction) to invest in the school library stock – this will be represented as a donation from your family by a sticker inside the front cover.
- We meet again on 23rd January and I will share the key messages after that meeting. This is a term of fresh beginnings after putting in place a lot of basic systems last term - we are all optimistic that the school will now really start to fly.