



Thornhill Primary School
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Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you and your families are safe and well. It has certainly been a difficult period for all of us trying to balance work, home-schooling and looking after loved ones. However, one consistent has been the excellent support that the staff at Thornhill have been able to offer the children in continuing their learning, be it online or face to face. As we look to transition back into the new "normal" I have no doubt that this support will not falter, and the school is prepared and excited to welcome all children back to school.

As a relatively new governing board, it has been difficult for us to be fully emersed into the school and I know we all look forward to being more involved in school activities and events as we move into the "new normal". I know I personally am looking forward to speaking with some of you, hearing about your experiences of Thornhill and establishing a stronger relationship with the community.

As you all know, at the end of the last School year, we said goodbye to Amanda Benton as Headteacher of the school which we knew would be a very tough act to follow. However, over the past year, Karen Hill has stepped up and into the role as Acting Headteacher and I know you will join me in thinking that she has done a magnificent job. Not only has she had to get used to the new responsibilities and pressure, but she has also had a global pandemic to deal with, so not the easiest of transitions.

We always knew however, that there was a need to go to an open recruitment process to allow the role to be fairly advertised and applied for. Over the past couple of months this has been the case and we have now completed the interview process. From which, on behalf of all of the governors, I am delighted to announce that we have decided to offer Karen the role on a permanent basis. We believe that she is the perfect person to continue the excellent work that is already going on as well as take the school forward and drive improvement. She holds a strong relationship with staff, pupils and the local community with a great understanding of everyone's needs, something we felt was extremely important moving forward. Therefore, I hope you will join us in wishing Karen all the best as she begins her headship of Thornhill, and we as Governors will help, guide and challenge along the way.

Please all stay safe and I do hope to meet all of you as soon as it is safe to do so.

Kind Regards

Greg Shone
Chair of Governors

