

I shared these thoughts at the July Get Together - I'd just like to pass them on if you were unable to be there.

Since our first Get Together-last September- I've had a very memorable and enjoyable first year of headship. I'd like to say some Special Mentions and Thanks.

First thank you to all our staff in school- It is a pleasure to work with such an amazingly dedicated team- I'd like to thank them for their support, their energy and enthusiasm in all they do for our Rivington children,our school. Always moving our children and School on.

Mrs Annette – for all the hours spent on the Deputy's post- it's like a ball of string – you never get to the end- much appreciated! When you have a vision for school, it is fantastic to find it is not only shared- but believed in.

Special thanks too, to Mr Sands our Chair of Governors and my Governing Body who have provided advice, support and challenging questions, throughout this year- at Governors' meetings, Standards Group meetings and at HT & Chair of Governors weekly review. This has been much appreciated.

Many Thanks are due to our children, their Parents and their families. I value the way you have embraced the changes in school this year. Some from Government legislation, others from our own initiatives.

Thank you for your support, your enthusiasm , your frank comment, your confidence in us. It is an honour to lead Rivington on.

It has been a particular pleasure this year to be able to get to know each child and to be involved in **all** the classes- planning the future

Thank you – and it's a huge one – goes to Mrs How!

Mrs How has been at Rivington for 7 years– It has been my *particular* pleasure and privilege to work with Mrs HowWe all know Mrs How as the person who knows everything-about everyone and everything! Any fact about school- however obscure- Mrs How knows! It's true - always calm, always organised ...Mrs How knows the names, details, phone numbers, likes & dislikes....all the details of everything.....Always! Everyone in our school family has their own many reasons to say Huge Thanks. We wish Mrs How the best of everything as she leaves - we will all miss her!

Next ... Mrs Cuerden has something to celebrate ...She has passed her NQT year with flying colours!! This year is the start of a long and successful career I know- it's still true that great teachers are born not made! I know Y1 & 2 have had a super year – always learning, working hard!

Thanks to a good idea from Mr Thacker, this year the PTA had the Defibrillator installed in school. A team of adults in school, Y4 and Y5 are all trained in CPR and its use – well done! Worthwhile life skills!

CHIP in Bloom – 2nd Place overall, 1st place Tubs- Y3/4 wellies containers, especially, went down a storm!!! Thank you to everyone involved- next year the competition is running again!! We'll be back!

A Special Well done and Pat on the Back to Reception for their Forest Schools work this year! Our children are more confident and are developing an understanding of the environment by starting now!

Pike Hikers! Amazing! ...everyone from Pre-School to Y6 went up –and back down- the Pike! Your behaviour was noted by other walkers on the day and we have received really positive comments – Fantastic! Mrs Whittaker was asked by a couple out walking – what was going on- They were very impressed and said they had never ever heard of any school doing this! Sponsor money already coming in- bring in September if it's not in school now!

Stars and Shields- the last ones. We have felt for a while that we need a change in our reward systems, so from September there will be completely new systems in place. I know from the PAQ that many parents agree. Watch this space!

Well Done to our Football Team at the Adlington Carnival and many thanks to Mrs Cliffe for co-ordinating and organising this to make it possible. There will be After School Football practice each Wednesday from September 16th run by Elite Sports. Also each half term there will be a different Sports Club available from Sportscool.

Running Club has had a fantastic year thanks to Mrs Gell and Mrs Roberts, they have an amazing team of runners and this year have presented special awards to recognise effort and progress! Many thanks too, to Joseph Howe who has helped with Running Club each week- his commitment is much appreciated.

Sports events School has attended this year include: Orienteering, Dance competition, Adlington Football Tournament, The Swimming Gala, Sportshall Athletics – in all these our children represented school excellently- always giving their best and demonstrating good sportsmanship! Charities we have supported this year include: Starlight Children's foundation, Hand on Heart BHF, British Legion Poppy Appeal, Children in Need, Oxfam, Urban Outreach and ActionAid. Special thanks go to Mrs Corlett and School Council- they always play a large part in our fund raising – a non-stop year of cake sales, uniform sales – always working for the good of others- well done!

Our Eco Warriors with Mrs Cliffe have been doing their best to keep us recycling!

Around the World Week: amazing experiences all week- with a variety of countries within each continent, their cultures, faiths, foods and arts. All visitors this week commented on the enthusiasm and good behaviour of our children- everyone had a marvellous time,; from Judaism – the life of a child, Yoga, African drumming and Samba dancing!

Next year we are establishing Round the World links through Penpal projects in each class- Y1/2 with children in South Africa, Y5/6 with children in Northern Ireland, Reception (STOP PRESS-

in America!)and Y3/4 have already started with their link to France! Their letters are written and ready to go! Well done Y3/4 for leading the way on our travels!

Congratulations to Y6 on all achieving their Bikeability Level 2 awards-fantastic!

Y5 – very busy year-involvement with the Edina Trust Science Project, Speakeasy Project-working at the Bolton STEM centre , Albany Science and Taster day activities.

Albany High School Prizes for excellence in Maths -Jamie Sutcliffe and English -Kate Hiller . Well Done!

KS1 Horse Prize for Perseverance and hard work: Very well deserved award for Niamh McColl!

Y6- Congratulations on your hard work and SATs results- you can be proud of yourselves! Our Leavers take our Rivington Good Wishes with them- your time here will be part of you always.

Mr Sands -presented the Governors' Alice Lowe Prize to Lily Heywood and Ethan Cuerden.

Congratulations on achieving this prize through your hard work and wider school links.

Lastly...thanks to our Choir, trained and led by Mrs Hodgkinson- for their commitment , their inspiring singing which we all enjoy!

As you can see- an amazing year!

Have a well deserved break everyone and we'll see you on September 2nd!