child receives weekly music and sport sessions from specialist teachers along with access to our ‘exceptional environment’ (Ofsted) for outdoor learning.

The Arts Council awarded us their Artsmark Gold Award and commended our ‘incredibly high levels of parental engagement’, acknowledging how ‘it takes a lot of time, care and trust to foster deep supportive relationships between a school and its parents, and it is clearly a strength of the school’. They also highlighted how we provide ‘a rich arts curriculum of diverse and broad experiences for pupils from high quality local and national arts organisations, where children are encouraged to lead their own learning’.

Our planned new all-weather sports pitch combines the enthusiasm and energy of our parents with the emphasis we place in supporting our community. This parent-led project has raised over £120,000 at the time of publication. The pitch will enhance the learning environment for pupils even further in addition to providing a much needed resource for local sports groups.

This year has also seen the flourishing of a number of local partnerships:
• children performing (and having their play performed!) at Omnibus Theatre
• National Trust property 575 Wandsworth Rd inspiring children and families
• families growing their own produce in raised beds at Eden Garden
• children learning a range of techniques at Clapham Pottery
• weekend family art trips to the Institute of Imagination
• local sports groups preparing for our new all-weather pitch.

Details of these and other enrichment opportunities are available on our website.

What next?
Moving forward the school is planning further curriculum development involving parent feedback, particularly focusing on computing and coding skills. Governors remain committed to providing a curriculum that prepares children for the future. We will continue to enhance the learning environment both indoors and outdoors.
Making tough decisions with a clear vision

Heathbrook governors are clear about the school culture that best meets the needs of its pupils and the curriculum which enables them to achieve their utmost now and in the future. Ofsted recognised this in their 2016 report and our School Improvement Advisor reiterated it in his spring 2018 report. He went on to add that ‘Leaders continue to successfully build and develop further a very positive school climate in which pupils can learn quickly. They have developed teamwork among the staff to ensure that learning across each year group is consistent and well themed’.

With over twenty meetings annually, as well as regular visits to explore specific aspects of school life in detail, governors know the community and its context well. Most are current parents or ex-parents who know the positive impact Heathbrook has had on their own children.

Governors’ rigorous financial management over the past few years has now put the school in an extremely strong position. Whilst the majority of other schools are facing cuts, our budget is increasing as the numbers of pupils increases. Applications for places have risen significantly in contrast to most other local schools. Despite challenging government changes to Nursery funding in the autumn of last year, we have had a considerably higher number of Nursery pupils join us, which is testament to the quality of our Nursery provision.

Strong relationships ensure confident learners

The school’s vision recognises that learning begins with positive relationships. This was confirmed by external moderators who were particularly impressed with the staff’s ‘very sound knowledge of individual children’ and their ‘very strong relationships with parents’. They described the children’s calm and independent attitude to learning as ‘amazing’.

We have seen over time how the development of our Be the Best you can Be! values has enabled pupils to fully embrace the benefits of our rich curriculum. These intrinsic values of Readiness, Responsibility, Resilience, Resourcefulness, Reflectiveness and Respect aim to create self-regulating lifelong learners.

Parental involvement is another key factor in children’s success at Heathbrook. Parents frequently comment on their children’s enthusiasm for learning and unanimously rated the school’s overall performance as ‘very good’ or ‘good’ in the annual parent questionnaire. The online survey gave the school an ‘excellent overall performance score’ compared with schools nationally clearly indicating a high level of parental satisfaction.

Our incredibly high academic expectations meant that children dramatically exceeded both national progress measures for achievement and attainment in the 2017 Year 6 SATs results. 89% of children at Heathbrook achieved the government’s new expected standard or above for reading, writing and maths (combined) compared with 61% nationally.

An inspiring and engaging curriculum

Our four ‘pillars’ (arts, music, sports and outdoor learning) enrich our Community Curriculum and inspire pupils to flourish. Every