

# St Bede's Governors' Newsletter



19th July 2018

Summer Term Issue 1

## Welcome to the first St. Bede's Governors' newsletter

A very warm welcome to the first of our termly Governors' newsletter. Each term the Governors will be producing a newsletter to keep you informed of the work we're doing alongside the school staff to continue to make St. Bede's a fantastic school. We thought it might be useful to use this first letter to tell you a little bit more about who we are and what we do.

### **Who are we?**

The governors are a group of individuals from different backgrounds – parents, staff, the local authority and community – who volunteer their time, skills and ideas to support the school in its aim to provide the children with the best, well rounded education it can offer. To assist in ensuring the governor work is carried out to the best of our abilities, specialist training is provided on all aspects of school life. For more information about our governors please take a look at the governor page of the school website.

### **What do governors do?**

We have various responsibilities and meet regularly, either as a full governing body or in smaller specialist committees which are aligned with our skills and experience (Resources committee, Catholicity, Curriculum and Communications committee, Admissions panel, Headteacher performance review panel). At a minimum we:

- decide on school improvement policies
- agree the school's targets and monitor progress against these
- review and approve the budget and expenditure
- support the school through any changes or as issues arise
- ensure adequate safeguarding is in place and audit this annually
- check health and safety provisions are adequate

### **Changes to the governing body**

2017/18 has been a time of change for our governing body.

Three of our governors (Matt Read, Anthony Stephenson and Fiona Blackburn) stepped down after many years of invaluable help and support. We thank them for their time, support and commitment over the years.

We are delighted to welcome five new governors. Dilini De Silva and Debbie Froud join us as elected Parent Governors, Danny Sullivan and Mary Kucharska as Foundation Governors and Monica Barker as Staff Governor.

*PTO*

### **What were our 2017/18 priorities?**

Each year the Governing Body and staff consult to agree the priorities for the academic year. The 2017/18 priorities were:

- Focus on improving writing
- Develop the curriculum to provide pupils with broad and challenging experiences
- Enhance RE within the school
- Implement and support a new leadership team
- Continue to strengthen ties with the community
- Explore creation of a morning and after school club
- Arrange new secure fencing around the school perimeter

We are delighted many of these have either been achieved or on track to be achieved as demonstrated through the recent SATS results and the Ofsted visit.

During the year we have also been very fortunate in not only celebrating our school masses at church, but Fr. Chris has also welcomed year groups to celebrate Mass in church during the week enabling us to forge even stronger links to the wider parish.

### **Fantastic news!**

Please join us in congratulating our pupils and staff on the fantastic KS2 SATs results. The school set high targets for our KS2 children and we were delighted with their achievements: 82% reached age related expectations in reading, writing and maths and 20% reached the higher standard in all three subjects. These figures look to be well above the national averages which will be confirmed in the autumn term.

We would like to thank all our Year 6s for all they have done and brought to St. Bede's and wish you all the best as you move into secondary school.

We hope you have a lovely summer break and look forward to sharing further news and updates with you in the autumn term.

Katie Strickland on behalf of the Governors

Chair of Governors

This is my Commandment:

**That you love one another as I have  
loved you**

*John 15: 12*

As pupils, staff, governors and parents of St Bede's Catholic Primary School, Our Mission is to live by the values of  
Jesus

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