

A school family learning and growing together



Welcome to the Governing body's 2017 Newsletter!

Governors have been busy this school year on a number of tasks and projects. You will have been able to read all school news on our website (see below) but here are just some key areas we would like to tell you about.

www.kislingbury-ce-primary.co.uk

NUMERACY

Maths has been the key priority in the School Development Plan in this school year. You will have been aware of two 'Maths days' where pupils have been immersed in all things numeric and have been shown how maths is fun! The school has invested in more maths tools this year, specifically Numicon, which all pupils are benefitting from. Children have also been enjoying more 'snappy maths' in class due to extra time timetabled in for recalling key maths facts and times tables. Thank you to parents and carers for working alongside staff to encourage our school to embrace maths. We, as Governors, are delighted to see pupils progress and are closely monitoring this area.

SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

The scrolling programme of the KS2 and hall redecoration is now finished, although new hall curtains and blinds are still to be sourced. It is hoped that they will be ready for September. In addition, air conditioning has been installed in some rooms which tended to

overheat, making them a much more pleasant environment for children and staff.

In the playground, the quiet area and year One outside area have been completely refurbished. As Governors, we are extremely pleased with the results, we hope you are too. We must extend our thanks to the friends of the school who funded the Year One area which looks great and is a marvellous addition to the class learning space. The children make good use of the quiet area, which was designed after consultation with the school council and we have green fingered pupils who have taken charge of deadheading the flowers in the planters.

Repairs to the front gate, stone work and fencing were put on hold this year as more urgent repairs had to take precedence. These projects will be reviewed again in the new school year. In addition, as part of our ongoing responsibility to make the school safe and accessible as possible plans to upgrade the ramps to and from the hallway are in progress.

INSPECTIONS

Our Church School Inspection took place in March and we received great feedback from the inspector. All schools with a religious character receive this 'SIAMs' inspection every five years. We received an overall 'Good' grading but were graded as 'Outstanding' for our ethos. The inspector commented: 'The strong impact of Christian values such as love, forgiveness, endurance and hope lead to excellent behaviour and relationships.'

ACADEMY STATUS

Academies are self-governing non-profit charitable trusts and may receive additional support from personal or corporate sponsors, either financially or in kind. They do not have to follow the National Curriculum, but do have to ensure that their curriculum is broad and balanced, and that it includes the core subjects of mathematics and English. They are subject to inspection by Ofsted.

The Governors have discussed at length the possibility of converting to Academy Status this year. After thorough research we have decided that it is time to convert and that joining the Peterborough Diocese Academy Group (PDET) would be the strongest choice for our school. PDET is based in Northampton and has a number of local schools already in its Academy group. We have made the first steps towards becoming an Academy and all parents and carers will be hearing more about this over the course of the next school year.

SCHOOL GOVERNORS ROLE

All Governors have an area of responsibility for monitor progress and issues within the school and results of these are discussed at committee meetings and fed back to The Full Governing Body. Examples of monitoring areas are literacy, maths, policies, healthy eating, the school environment and safeguarding. Governors are also present in school at other key times such as fire alarm tests, the opening of SATS papers, church celebrations and assemblies.

If you wish to get in touch with the governors please email us at:
bursar@kislingbury.northants-ecl.gov.uk

CHANGES IN THE GOVERNING BODY

We are lucky to have had three new Governors join us this school year, all have close connections to the school. Mrs Kerrow joined as a parent Governor at the beginning of the school year and recently Mrs Dove and Mrs David have joined as co-opted Governors. Both have had children or relatives at the school in the past.

You may be aware that Mrs Blackwell, our Chair of Governors, is leaving her position this year. We are also losing Mrs Goyal from our main Governing Body. We would all like to thank them both for the tremendous support they have given the school, and wish them all the best for the future.

ON A FINAL NOTE

The Governors would like to thank Mr Tyler for his dedication, huge effort and leadership for running the school.

Thank you also to all staff, parents and carers for the support you have given our school this year.

The Governors would like to wish everyone in our school family a healthy and happy Summer. We look forward to seeing you in September, ready for an exciting new school year. For those families and pupils leaving us this Summer, we wish you all the best in the next phase of your education.

The Governing body