



Governor's Newsletter



Summer Term 2015

Full Governing Body (FGB) meetings for 2014-2015— dates and main focus:

- 10th September (evening)
Plan the year ahead, elections
- 20th October (evening)
Approve School Development Plans
- 26th November (all day)
Review KS1 and KS2 SATs results
- 2nd January (evening)
Information session on school structures
- 16th March (evening)
In-house training session on 'Roles and Responsibilities'
- 5th May (evening)
Discuss and approve school budget
- 15th July (all day)
Review of the year—progress and impact of School Development Plans
- Copies of the minutes of FGB meetings are available from the School Office
- Average attendance at meetings = 91%

List of Governors

Headteacher

Sasha Howard

Staff governor

Andrew Jones

Parent governors

Rebecca Arthur (Chair of Children and Learning committee)

Richard Osborn (Chair of Resources committee)

Local Authority (LA) governor

Deborah House (Chair of Governors)

Co-opted governors

Caroline Maskell

Chris Mannix (Chair of Pay Review and Salaries committee)

Emma Tidby

Jon Pumflett (Vice Chair)

Lyndsay Lees

Robert Ware

From the Chair of Governors...

As the school year draws to a close so the school's governors and Senior Leaders are reflecting upon what has been achieved this year. At the beginning of the year we welcomed our new headteacher, Mrs Howard. We have all been very impressed with the way she has settled into her new role, working hard to get to know the pupils, parents and staff and introducing a number of new systems and initiatives that have already

had a positive impact on the school. One area of concern in recent years has been attendance, so I am very pleased to report that our attendance figure for the year has exceeded our target of 95% - 'thank you' to all families and staff for making this happen. Preliminary analysis of our Key Stage 2 SATs data indicates that all our Y6 pupils have achieved very well this year. In light of these results the school received a much de-

served letter of congratulations from the Local Authority. A huge 'well done' to all pupils and staff, you must be very proud of your achievements. We wish our Y6 pupils well as they move onto the next stage of their learning journey and look forward to welcoming our new EYFS pupils in September.

I hope you have a restful summer.

Debbie



Up-date on School Development Plans

Strategic Development Plan 2014-2015

This year we have been working on the following:

- Ensuring that all school leaders are confident in their role and able to demonstrate a good understanding of the school's context, strengths, and priorities
- Adopting a consistent approach to assessing pupil progress in writing using an accurate system that is fully understood by all teaching staff
- Fully evaluating the impact of Pupil Premium funding and sharing these findings with governors and the wider community
- Ensuring that the school premises and grounds are secure and meet statutory requirements
- Introducing wrap-around care provision, ensuring all statutory and school policies/procedures are in place, implemented and adhered to
- Improving attendance so that it is in line with National Average

Strategic Development Plan 2015-2018

Over the Summer Term, governors and staff have been thinking about and discussing the future of the school, in particular, our Vision and Values. Based on the outcome of these discussions, the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) has drafted the following aims for the school.

At Meldreth Primary School we aim:

- To develop creative, imaginative thinkers and risk takers who enjoy challenge and love solving problems
- To nurture respectful and resilient learners who grow to reach their individual potential
- To value and support the sense of collaboration and community within our school to help children to be useful local, national and international citizens
- To promote high levels of self-esteem and communication so that children feel able to make the most of their own and others' strengths and talents

These aims were approved by the Governing Body at their July meeting and the SLT and governors are now in the process of formulating our strategic priorities for 2015-2018, which we will share with you in the Autumn Term. As with most schools, we will be focusing on the achievement of pupils and the quality of teaching, leadership and management within the school. We also aim to continue to provide sound financial management and to develop the school's physical environment.

From the Link Governor for Safeguarding

The past academic year has been a busy one with regards to training and governor visits to school. I have completed four training courses covering E-safety, Allegations Against Staff, Child Protection and Safer Recruitment refresher training. I have also undertaken visits to school in light of these training courses. On completion of these courses I was presented with a Safeguarding Attendance Award

and was invited to an awards evening by the Local Authority.

With safeguarding as the focus, modifications to the front entrance will take place over the summer which will ensure even greater safety for staff and pupils.

I hope to continue developing the role of safeguarding governor and being able to en-

gage with the school and stakeholders to continue to help drive the school's Vision and Values.

Emma Tidby



From the Chair of Children and Learning Committee

The main purpose of the C&L Committee is to work with the headteacher and Senior Leadership Team to promote the best educational outcomes for children at MPS. The Raising Achievement Plan (RAP) is a school improvement plan that aims to raise the achievement and attainment of all pupils. It is updated termly, with pupil progress being monitored and evaluated regularly. The priorities identified in the RAP form the core of the work of the C&L Committee. We ask questions about how the school will work towards its targets, and we monitor its progress

as it does so. We analyse data for all groups of children (not individuals), look at their progress and achievements, and discuss improvement strategies and some of the barriers to learning that children might be facing.

This year, during the spring term, members of the C&L Committee visited the school for a morning to talk to Mrs Howard and the English leader about the way writing is taught at MPS and to see the marking and feedback policy in action. We also visited all the classrooms, where the children enthusiastically told

us about success stars and super sentences. They were proud to show us their writing books and their work displayed on the classroom walls. Governors are given a lot of data and paperwork about policies, pupils, targets and achievements: these visits are an excellent and enjoyable way of actually seeing the school's day-to-day work.

Rebecca Arthur



From the Link Governor for Early Years Foundation Stage

In March I attended the Early Years Governors training course. We looked at the organisation of an Early Years setting and characteristics of effective teaching and learning. A key area of discussion was monitoring progress to ensure a good level of development.

As part of the Government's changes in assessment, MPS has now signed up to trial the Early Excellence baseline for new Early Years pupils. This decision was made in association with other local schools. As part of these changes there will now be termly meetings to report back on progress to

the Governing Body.

Lyndsay Lees

