



GOVERNOR NEWS



Dear Parent(s) / Carer(s)

It has been a fun and busy term for staff and children across the Federation and here is a brief update about changes to the governing body and what we have been doing over this time.

New volunteers

In Autumn last year we recruited two new parent governors to fill vacancies and are delighted to welcome to our team **Nicky Crompton** as a parent governor for Wirksworth CE Infant School and **Jenny Babenko** as a parent governor for Wirksworth Infant School. They join **Sally Pearson** and **Hanna Link** as parent governors and it is fantastic that we have a full complement of parents to represent each school. At the same time two new Foundation Governors were appointed by St Mary's Church for Wirksworth CE and we welcome **Sue Todd** and **Lucy Williams-Hunter** to those roles. More recently the local authority filled their vacancy on our governing body and we are joined by **Penny Findon**. Penny is so new she hasn't had chance to visit the schools yet, but is looking forward to meeting staff, children and other governors after Easter.

Community Governor vacancy

In March we were sorry to say goodbye to **Martin Gerrelli**, community governor for the last four years. We extend our thanks to him for all his work over that period, especially as chair of the Resource Committee. It leaves us with a vacancy and because Wirksworth Junior School also have vacancies we are working in partnership with them to try and generate community interest in these roles. In the meantime, if you know anyone who lives or works in Wirksworth who might be interested in representing the community on our governing body, please contact me for more information.

Strategic planning

One of the core functions of governors is to make sure the school's vision and strategic direction is clear and drives school improvement. To do this we met as governors for a workshop March to begin to set out what we want to achieve as a Federation in the long term. It was an excellent evening with great energy and ideas from all involved. I am pulling the results together into a strategic development plan with the help of Jo Poyser and the committee chairs; Sally Pearson and Lucy Williams Hunter and all governors will discuss it further when we meet in May. It will form the framework for the more detailed school improvement plan for 2014-15 that Mrs Poyser will write later in the summer term, also incorporating your views from the forthcoming parent(s)/carer(s) questionnaire.

Wishing you all a peaceful and happy Easter break.

Kind regards

Tricia Rice

Chair of Governors

Community Governor Vacancy

If you know anyone who lives or works in Wirksworth and who might be interested in representing the community on our governing body, please contact **Tricia Rice** via either school office.

Wirksworth Federation of Infant Schools

Governing Body

The list below shows each member of our governing body and their role. After Easter we will be adding photographs and a few words about ourselves to the Federation website and I'll update you when that has been completed.

Parent Governors are elected by parents at each of our schools.

Hanna Link (WI) - *Learning & Teaching Committee*

Jenny Babenko (WI) - *Resource Committee*

Sally Pearson (WCofE) - *Chair of Resource Committee*

Nicky Crompton (WCofE) - *Learning & Teaching Committee*

Foundation Governors for Wirksworth Church of England Infant School are appointed by the Rector of St Mary's Church in Wirksworth

Susan Todd - *Learning & Teaching Committee*

Lucy Williams-Hunter - *Chair of Learning & Teaching Committee*

Community Governors are appointed by the governing body itself.

Tricia Rice - *Chair of Governors; Resource Committee; Learning & Teaching Committee*

Community Governor vacancy

Local Authority Governors are appointed by the Local Education Authority.

Mike Ratcliffe - *Resource Committee*

Penny Findon - *Committee to be confirmed*

Staff Governors are elected by the teaching and non-teaching staff of our schools and the headteacher is automatically a member of the governing body.

Jo Poyser (Headteacher) - *Resource Committee; Learning & Teaching Committee*

Sarah Waller (Teaching staff) - *Learning & Teaching Committee*

Myra Clay (Non-Teaching Staff) - *Resource Committee*

Clerk to Governors: although not a governor the clerk is very important advising the governing body on matters of law and procedure.

Betty Brown