



Autumn 2015

Welcome to the Autumn update from the Governing Board. After five years, this will be my last term as a Governor at HOSM (and the last newsletter to edit!) I have thoroughly enjoyed working alongside the other members to serve the school, its staff, the parents and most importantly the children. I have seen a few changes to the role during this time and more recently the opportunities for personal development have increased to provide an interesting challenge. This is something which is recognised by many organisations that actively encourage their employees to volunteer as a Governor. Our school is lucky to have strong support from parents and the wider community and as such, we have attracted members who genuinely want to do something positive, bringing valuable and diverse experience to the table. I am proud to have been involved and if any of you are considering becoming a School Governor in the future, I can heartily recommend it! Jayne Fisher.

This year has been a time of change in the governance of our school. We have a new Headteacher but also we have had a number of governors who have retired. Debbie Bullock served the school for many years, for several as Chair of Governors, and has made a positive difference. We shall miss her knack of asking the question you wished nobody would ask! Jayne Fisher will be retiring after many years service. Jayne has been the driving force behind the Sustainability project and has also made a major contribution to the school. We thank these two ladies for all they have done.

We currently have two vacancies for governors. Please consider whether you would like to serve our community in this role. There is a lot of information on the school web site about the role of governors, but if you wish to consider this, please contact me through the school office.

We are an enthusiastic group of different types of people, working together to try to get the best possible outcomes for the children. You don't have to be a specialist in education. It would be helpful if we had an additional governor with experience of property management and contracts - alternatively, an IT specialist would be a great asset as we move forward several projects to enhance the IT provision. But in the end the desire to make a difference and support the school as part of a team is the most important. **Chris Lemming.**

Life after levels

As you may have heard, the way in which children's progress is measured has now been changed by the Government. They have now replaced the old system of 'levels' and 'sub-levels' with 'Age Related Expectations'. This now means that progress will be related to the curriculum directly and rather than the pupils moving up levels once an objective has been achieved, there will be the opportunity to increase the breadth and depth of that knowledge as the year progresses.

So what does this actually mean for parents? Instead of seeing new learning objective sheets in the front of your children's books as they progress up through the sub-levels and levels, you will now see only one sheet in the front of the book with a set of 'age related expectations'. This will remain in the book all year and as the children work through the curriculum, the teachers will assess the pupils





against the objectives to determine whether they are 'developing' the knowledge to meet that objective, 'secure' in the knowledge or have gone even further and are 'enhancing' their knowledge.

From a governor's perspective, the measurement and analysis of progress sits within the remit of the Pupil Progress Committee. Following the Ofsted inspection in 2014, the school implemented a new system to track and monitor progress, and it was the detailed analysis which this allowed, that helped in delivering the good SATs results and the new rating of 'Good' in the latest Ofsted inspection. With the new 'Age Related Expectations', the Pupil Progress Committee (who meet twice per term) will be ensuring that the school stays focused on monitoring progress through the change and the governors will be supporting the Senior Management Team in ensuring that the school has the appropriate tools to monitor and assess using the new system. **Petra Newbound**

Governor Profiles



Martin Todd: *"As a proud but still relatively new member of the governing board of our School I have attempted to bring some experience gleaned for over 20 years as a Family Law Barrister to promoting our school. I am passionate to support our school which my 8 year old daughter attends and enjoys. Being a governor involves not insignificant amounts of time and commitment, but I have no hesitation in offering it in an effort to ensure the school achieves the best it can for our children. These changes are already being seen. I am excited to be working with our new head teacher, Miss Ross, towards a brighter and better future. I welcome the input and contribution from all parents and parties with interests in the school, after all this is supposed to be a Team effort."*



Petra Newbound: *"I have lived in Holme upon Spalding Moor for 9 years and now have two children (son in year 4 and daughter in year 1) who attend HOSM primary school. Since my son started at the school, I have been coming in regularly to listen to readers in my children's classes and I now also help out every week in the school library. I thoroughly enjoy both these activities and when the opportunity arose to apply for a governor's position, I felt that my background in NHS management and experience in strategy setting, would allow me to also support the school as a governor. I have worked in both the private sector and the NHS and as a result of my research background and experience in data analysis, I will be sitting on the Pupil Progress and Curriculum committees. I will also be assuming responsibility for Educational Trips."*

