



All Saints

Governor News

December 2016

We hope that you have all had a great term! We wanted to take this opportunity to look back across the year and welcome new parents and staff to the school.

As a governing body we are very proud of the hard work and commitment of staff under Miss Otranen's highly effective leadership, which is exemplified in this year's fantastic results at both Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. Our results were significantly higher than the national average at both Key Stages, which is of particular note at a time when new education initiatives and financial pressures on schools are increasing the challenges faced by staff.

Early September every year, the Governing Body spends a day reviewing the School Development Plan (SDP) and formulating the strategic priorities for the next academic year. Mr Richard Barrett stepped down as Chair of Governors after several years of service to the Governing Body. We would like to publically thank him for his dedication to the school during this time. The first item of business was to elect a new Chair (Catherine Cusick) and Vice Chair (Liz O'Neill) and to assign responsibilities to each of the members.

The key priorities for the school this year are to:

- ◆ Ensure that the high levels of achievement are maintained, particularly in light of the recent assessment and curriculum changes.
- ◆ Develop the school's approach to marking in order that pupils can effectively respond to feedback and make improvements to their learning.
- ◆ Embed the *Mastery Curriculum* across all Key Stages to deepen pupils understanding of maths.
- ◆ Improve pupils' experience of outside play through the development of peer-led activities in a space that is appropriate to pupils' needs.

The away day is an excellent opportunity for governors to consider the future direction of the school and to identify areas to focus on in the coming year. We feel that the introduction of Growth Mindset and Learning Powers, which are designed to encourage independent learning, have had a significant and positive impact on the



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approach to teaching and learning. Bearing that in mind, we feel that now is an appropriate time to review the core principles and values which underpin the school's ethos and develop a new vision which reflects these innovations. Over the coming year, the governing body will be asking parents, carers, staff, pupils as well as the wider school community what All Saints means to them in order to create a vision that represents the views of all. Parents from Years 4 and 6 have already contributed to this process.

Finally, over the last couple of years the school has undergone a process of renovation, most recently in the Nursery which has raised standards across the school. The only area not to benefit from these improvements is the staffroom. As one of the key priorities of the GDP this year is staff well-being, we feel that now is the appropriate time to renovate the staffroom using governor funds. This project will be costly and we would like to reiterate our request to the wider school community to support us in resourcing this work. If you feel that you are able to offer expertise or materials please contact admin@allsaints.herts.sch.uk

We consider this a fantastic opportunity to thank all staff for their hard work and dedication to the pupils at All Saints and to wish you all a wonderful and restful Christmas holiday.

All Saints Governing Body