

# GOVERNORS' GAZETTE



## Summer Term 2016

Dear Families,

As we approach the end of the school year the governors would like to wish all families a lovely (dry?) summer holiday and wish all the Y2 children every success and happiness as they move to their new schools and hope they take many happy memories of Moss Lane with them.

The test results and the progress children have made this year have all been so good and deserve celebrations all round! The school SATs results



and Phonic data is above the national data.

Congratulations to your children and to the staff team who have all worked

so hard to achieve this and make the lessons enjoyable and exciting.

We are also very pleased that the September term will start with the same set of teachers that were at the school in July. They are such a great bunch of professionals and we have every confidence in them to provide the high quality learning opportunities you want for your children.

### What have governors done this term?

#### Review of children's progress and attainment:

Each term we look at the school data for children's progress and attainment. We ask questions of the staff if we feel any groups of children, or subject areas, do not appear to be doing as well as expected. In addition, governors have been observing how teachers make sure their assessments of children's progress are accurate and how they evaluate children's levels against the new criteria. We have been impressed with the thoroughness of this process.

**Monitoring:** Governors have been looking at curriculum development at Moss Lane and in particular the Big Write and the impact it is having on improving children's writing ability.

**Budget:** We have set a balanced budget for next financial year and were pleased to be able to agree spending to replace old classroom furniture and to redecorate and refurbish the Y2 toilets!

**Academy Status** Following the reversal of the Secretary of State for Education announcement about all school having to become 'academies' it is now only schools judged to Require Improvement or as Inadequate that will be required to do so.

However, as things have a tendency to change quickly, we will keep monitoring options and requirements so that any changes we may make in the future are made because we believe it will benefit all our children and not because we have been directed to do so.



**Questionnaires:** Thank you to all families who completed the swimming questionnaire. The conclusions we drew from the responses were that governors needed to consider:



- How much children enjoyed the swimming experience
- Investigate less expensive/less time-consuming options
- If swimming is not a cost effective option provide a different PE activity
- Majority of responses did not feel strongly about children going for the 6 week course of swimming sessions unless their child was a non-swimmer

This year the school used a new coach company which has improved timekeeping. At a recent Governor meeting it was decided to continue to use Surrey Sports Park for another year but, if possible, to extend the number of lessons children have to increase the impact on swimming skills.

## NEWS FLASH: PARKING PERMITS

The local council has reviewed the provision of the 'free' parking permits at Crown Court car park for drop off/pick up. It is likely that from January permits will only be available to parents living over a certain distance from the school or for parent/child with disabilities. We appreciate the need to reduce use of cars and for 'greener' choices but we know that many parents have tight time schedules for pick/up drop off at other schools and time deadlines for work which an extra ten minute walk would make impossible. Please be assured that governors are in discussion with the appropriate council officers to try to broker the best deal we can for our families.

**Parent Governors:** Despite suggestions from some Government quarters that it might not be necessary to have parent governors we really value ours! We are aware that during the new term a vacancy for a new parent governor is likely. We will circulate more information at that time. Meanwhile if you would be interested in learning more please get in touch.

Whilst we would be particularly interested in nominations from parents with finance /accountancy expertise we also welcome nominations for parents who are able to commit time and enthusiasm to the role as specific training is always available.

*With all best wishes for the rest of the term and for a lovely Summer*

*Elaine Joyce*



*Chair of Governors*



A BIG and heartfelt thank you from the Governing Body to the amazing PTA. They have raised a phenomenal amount of funds once again

this year. This has enhanced the school's resources and opportunities for the children. Most obviously is their work to support the playground development. I am sure that this will continue in the new academic year as will all parents' contributions by attending the lovely and varied events the PTA organise.

### Who Are We?

#### Parent Governors

Dewi ab Iorwerth (vice Chair & Curriculum Lead)  
Giles Bedloe (Safeguarding Lead)  
Mark Berry (Finance lead)

#### Co-opted

Vacancy (Progress and Standards Lead)  
Michelle Daniels (Community /Communications lead)  
Steve Goddard (Premises lead)  
Elaine Joyce (Chair & Leadership/H&S lead)

#### Local Authority

Kirsty Walden (Finance /Communications support)

#### Staff

Cindylou Turner Taylor (EYFS Lead)

#### Headteacher

Victoria Abbott

#### Clerk to Governors

Pam Langridge

You can always contact governors by leaving a letter at the school office, via email to the clerk [pamandbenhome@gmail.com](mailto:pamandbenhome@gmail.com) or to the Chair of Governors (Elaine Joyce) [joyceelaine@btinternet.com](mailto:joyceelaine@btinternet.com)

If you want to know more about the role of the governors, or think you may like to become a governor in the future you can attend a governing body meeting as an observer. Please contact Pam Langridge, our clerk, if you wish to do this.