

# GOVERNORS' NEWSLETTER

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## Welcome to our Winter Newsletter!

Happy New Year! I hope that all of you had a very joyful Christmas and enjoyed a break over the festive season. After the action-packed diary that the school had in December, everyone probably needed one! While Christmas is never exactly a relaxing holiday, with all the excitement of Christmas, the food to be eaten, the family to visit and the mountains of wrapping paper and cardboard to dispose of, it is a well-deserved break from the day to day routine of school, albeit one that goes very fast!

## Chair's overview

Welcome back to term 3 – I hope everyone had a restful break. New Year is always a time for reflection and I wanted to take this opportunity to reflect on the start to this academic year. Terms 1 and 2 saw the school coming together after our Service Review, and the governors have been very impressed by, and incredibly thankful for, our amazing staff team who do not appear to let anything faze them! Pressure on resources has meant different approaches and creative thinking about how to deliver the increasingly challenging curriculum to our children, and every time our teachers pull it out of the bag. A particular highlight for all of us was hearing about the Geography week, led by Mrs Addleman. This resulted in a simply stunning book being produced, highlighting all the children's findings from each year group. I do hope that the book will be on display at the next parents' evening so that you can all see it for yourselves.

Another highlight of the Christmas season is always the Reception and KS1 nativity plays, and the KS2 carol service. The former were a huge success – the children had worked very hard and performed beautifully – a particular thank you to Mrs Meucci and Mrs Hardiman who produced such stunning costumes that I'm sure will keep the nativity plays going for many years to come. The KS2 service out on the field was simply magical and a big thank you to Mr Davis and the year 6 team for working so hard to bring it all together.



As we look forward to 2018, we do have to say a farewell to Chris Jackson, who has stepped down as a Foundation governor. Chris brought with him a wealth of experience and he will be sorely missed

While we recruit another Foundation governor, we welcome Maria Lucio to the governing body as an associate member – she brings with her considerable expertise in leadership development and assessment, and her contribution will be very valuable. We have included a who's who of the governing body for you in this newsletter to introduce you to our newer members.

**Jacob Preisner, Chair of Governors**

## The importance of data

In the Standards committee, one of the most important things that we consider throughout the year is data. Our teachers work exceptionally hard to ensure that the children cover all the areas of the ever-changing curriculum that is set by the Government, as well as participating in all the extra-curricular subjects and activities that St Bon's has always prided itself on. However, ultimately how a school is judged is on results – how its pupils have achieved compared to other pupils in the area.

We keep an eye on pupil progress throughout the year by looking at data – this is the information that teachers collate throughout the year on how individual pupils are doing, which is then inputted into tables and anonymised so that the governors can see how each year group is doing. We also consider how particular groups of children are getting on, for example those who receive pupil premium. Finally, we can see how many pupils are at the levels expected of them and movement between those levels.

Bristol Post publishes a consolidated set of results for all the primary schools in the city each year – the table from December 2017 speaks for itself!

The highest attaining schools in the city are:

| School name                              | % reaching expected standard | % reaching high standard | Disadvantaged |
|--|------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| Whitehall Primary School                 | 93%                          | 27%                      | 39%           |
| Emilea Junior School                     | 92%                          | 22%                      | 7%            |
| Ilminster Avenue E-ACT Academy           | 88%                          | 4%                       | 74%           |
| St Bonaventure's Catholic Primary School | 88%                          | 17%                      | 12%           |
| Greenfield E-Act Primary Academy         | 84%                          | 16%                      | 67%           |
| Ashley Down Primary School               | 83%                          | 15%                      | 23%           |
| Bishop Road Primary School               | 83%                          | 20%                      | 6%            |
| Ss Peter and Paul RC Primary School      | 83%                          | 24%                      | 17%           |
| St Joseph's Catholic Primary School      | 83%                          | 10%                      | 21%           |
| Westbury Park Primary School             | 83%                          | 32%                      | 7%            |

The results from the 2016/17 academic year were fantastic, and a testament to the hard work of our exceptional teachers and our amazing pupils. Despite pressure on resources, we can already see the determination to build on these results shining through everything that the staff are doing and we will continue to support them in all they do.

**Alison Duckett**

**Co-opted Governor and Chair of Standards**

*"The Magi were able to worship because they had the courage to set out. And as they fell to their knees before the small poor and vulnerable Infant, the unexpected and unknown Child of Bethlehem, they discovered the glory of God."*

*Pope Francis*








# The Governors

The last 12 months have seen a number of movements on the governing body – therefore we thought it a good opportunity to re-introduce you to the governors and associate members, so you can see who does what!

St Bon's has a number of different governors: Foundation (appointed by the Diocese as the eyes and ears of the Bishop on the board of Catholic schools), LEA (nominated by the local authority), Staff (elected by the staff at St Bon's), Parent (elected by the parents of children at the school), Co-opted (a governor appointed by the other governors) and the Headteacher, who is always a governor. We also have associate members of the governing body, who are appointed by the governors for their expertise in a particular area. The three sub-committees of the governing body are Standards, Finance, Premises, Health & Safety (FPHS) and Management, Equality and Child Protection (MECP) – each governor sits on one of these.



*“Nations shall  
come to your  
light, and kings  
to the brightness  
of your dawn”  
Isaiah 60:3*

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|---|--|---|--|
|   | <p><b>Jacob Preisner</b>, Chair of Governors and member of the Standards committee.</p>  |    | <p><b>Jonathan Rogers</b>, LEA nominated Governor, Vice-Chair and chair of FPHS. Jonathan is the Pupil Premium link governor.</p>                      |
|  | <p><b>Lucille Charles</b>, Headteacher. Mrs Charles sits on all the three committees.</p>  |  | <p><b>Alison Duckett</b>, Co-opted Governor and Chair of the Standards committee.</p>  |
|  | <p><b>Niki Hawke</b>, Foundation Governor and Chair of the MECP committee. Niki is also the Children in Care link governor.</p>                      |  | <p><b>Krzysztof Inorowicz</b>, Foundation Governor. Krzysztof is involved in the internal audit process as part of his role on the FPHS committee.</p> |
|  | <p><b>Jonathan Kidd</b>, Parent Governor, member of the FPHS committee and Fundraising lead. Jonathan also leads on IT issues for the Governors.</p> |  | <p><b>Jenny Kittow</b>, Parent Governor and member of the MECP committee. Jenny is also the Child Protection link governor.</p>                        |

**The Governors of St Bonaventure's Catholic Primary School**











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|  <p><b>Giovanni Maniglia</b>,<br/>Foundation Governor<br/>and member of the<br/>FPHS committee.<br/>Giovanni leads on<br/>Health and Safety<br/>issues for the<br/>governors.</p> |  <p><b>Ciara Mullan</b>,<br/>Foundation<br/>Governor and<br/>member of the<br/>FPHS committee.</p>   |
|  <p><b>Eddie Romero</b>,<br/>Foundation<br/>Governor and<br/>member of the<br/>Standards<br/>committee.<br/>Eddie is the SEN<br/>link governor.</p>                               |  <p><b>Fr Tom Smith</b>,<br/>Foundation Governor<br/>and member of the<br/>Standards committee. Fr<br/>Tom has a particular role<br/>in overseeing RE at the<br/>school.</p> |
|  <p><b>Steph Woolley</b>,<br/>Staff Governor and<br/>member of the<br/>Standards<br/>committee.</p>  |  <p><b>Sarah Ballantine</b>,<br/>Associate Member.<br/>As deputy head,<br/>Sarah sits in on<br/>Standards meetings in<br/>particular.</p>                                   |
|  <p><b>Marie Harkin</b>,<br/>Associate Member<br/>and member of<br/>MECP committee.<br/>Marie is particularly<br/>involved in<br/>recruitment.</p>                              |  <p><b>Shailen Joshi</b>, Associate<br/>Member. Shailen brings<br/>with him financial<br/>expertise from his role at<br/>Lloyds Bank.</p>                                  |
|  <p><b>Maria Lucio</b>,<br/>Associate Member.<br/>Maria has particular<br/>expertise as a<br/>leadership<br/>consultant.</p>  |  <p><b>Tony Nelson</b>,<br/>Associate Member.<br/>Tony has used his<br/>extensive<br/>experience in the<br/>school<br/>redevelopment<br/>project.</p>                      |