

Governors' End of Year Report - July 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am very happy to be reporting to you on the work of the school governors over this year of very significant change. Thank you for your part in helping the school to be what it is and to achieve what it has.

The most significant change for us has been the arrival of Mrs MacGovern as our Headteacher. She joined us in September as Acting Head, supported by Mrs Walton as Consultant Head, and, following a selection process, we were very happy to appoint her as our Permanent Head in February.

At the start of the year we were somewhat disappointed to hear that, following consultation, our attempt to have low fencing around a pitch in Victoria Park, in order to provide a secure area for our schools and for the public, had not been successful. On-going building work in the autumn took staff and governor time. Teachers and children coped well in sometimes challenging conditions. It was great when everybody had a proper classroom, and hot school meals and outside play space were restored. We enjoyed the opening and blessing of the new build in March.



Progress on the development of the Jolly Brewers site has been slow. Original plans were for an integrated site, with a Multi-Use Games Area (court) on part of the pub site, and court access route plus prayer garden and vegetable beds on the Clifton Court car park between the pub and the school. Clifton Court parking would have been on the rest of the pub site. The current plans have a wide corridor joining the two sites. These plans suit residents better by leaving much of the parking as it is, and they will provide us with two courts on the pub site, not one. We are very grateful to the residents of Clifton Court. The prayer garden and vegetable beds will be accommodated on the existing school site. Construction should take place this winter, funding permitting. The area is needed soon so that the year 5 curriculum can be delivered.

The Governing Body has met seven times this year plus we've had an in-school training session on preparing for Ofsted, and an information session from Chichester Diocese on academisation. Committees have met to deal with Admissions and Attendance; Finance; Learning and Community; Premises, Health and Safety; and Staffing. In addition we have had a Headteacher appraisal panel and a pay panel. Several governors have undertaken training to equip them for their roles. Our work comes under the three headings of Strategy, holding the Headteacher to account, and Finance.

Four governors have resigned since the end of last academic year and a fifth will leave us soon. The rest of us are grateful for the contributions they have made. We have appointed two associate members and other governors are in the process of joining us – I encourage you to visit the relevant tab on our web site from time to time to find out who they are.



Peter Parish
Chair



Jenny Ferguson
Associate Member



Angela Pursey
Associate Member



John Chitham
Vice-Chair



Diane Le Mare
Foundation Governor



Philippa Waller
Parent Governor



Jo Beer
Staff Governor



Jo MacGovern
Headteacher



Freda Wimble
Foundation Governor



Kate Cooper
Foundation Governor



Jo Pelluet-McCulloch
Parent Governor



Trevor Wimble
Foundation Governor

We have as governors worked with senior staff in developing the values and vision for our school. We involved all teaching staff and put these out to all staff and to parents for consultation. We also heard from older children concerning the vision. We used to have 13 values – now we have a more memorable six:-

Love Growth Community Fairness Respect Honesty

The school will focus on these values every year to ensure that they become embedded in the life of the school.

Peter Parish (Chair)

On behalf of the Governing Body