



GOVERNOR NEWSLETTER AUTUMN TERM

Sherborne St. John Church of England Primary School

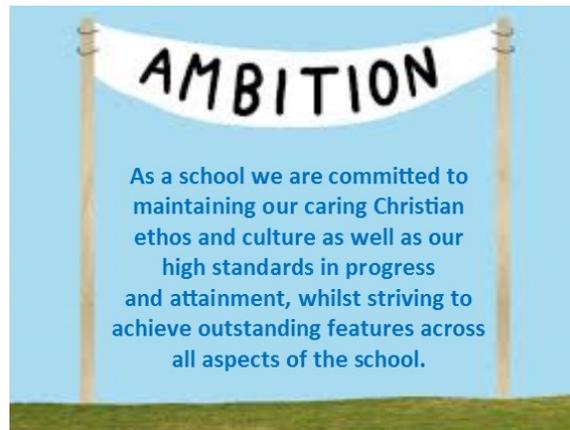
November 2016

Welcome to the Autumn edition of the Governor newsletter

A new academic year

What a great start to the 2016/17 school year we have had. As a Governing Body we've spent lots of time working on our school strategy documents, reviewing the last year and determining our areas of focus for this academic year.

As a result of our school self evaluation and updates to the school improvement plan we've worked in collaboration with the teachers to create an "**Ambition Statement**" for our school... our longer term vision for where we'd like to take our School.



Part of our role as Governors is to regularly visit the school and spend time with the children and staff. This term we've been fortunate to visit during some fun activities, the SKIP2BFIT and the Life Education Bus sessions. Not only was it a delight to see the children enjoying activities which were clearly enhancing the curriculum delivery but we were unbelievably proud to receive positive feedback from the external providers. We thought we'd share this with you so you too, could be proud of our school, the staff and the children:

"What a delightful school! I am so impressed by the listening skills, enthusiasm and general behavior of the children in every class."

Debbie Picott, Life Education

"Thank you for an amazing day in your school! The children and staff all joined in with the SKIP2BFIT challenge! One of the best atmospheres I have had in any school."

John McCormack, SKIP2BFIT.COM



Heidi Wadsworth
Chairman



Kevin Harris
Vice Chair



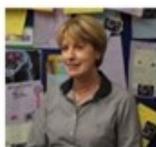
Priscilla Miller
Parent Governor



Rachel Ruane
Parent Governor



Diane Pound
Governor



Wendy Lovett
Staff Governor



Lynda Harding
Foundation Governor



Karen Payne
Headteacher



Elizabeth Hatt
Governor



Rev. John Hamilton
Ex-officio



Suzanne Cox
Governor

This edition of the Governor Newsletter also brings you the profiles of two more of our Governing Body. Many of you will know Kevin Harris; as a Parent Governor and an active member of our School Association he can regularly be seen at School, however Diane Pound may be new to many of you. Diane was joined the Governing Body earlier this year with a desire to use her background in education to volunteer in her local community.



I have been a Parent Governor at the school since September 2014 and have been Vice Chair for just over a year. As well as being Vice Chair I am also the link Governor for Class 3, and a member of the Curriculum Committee. I have two children in the school – Mad in Year 6 and Alex in Year 3. I have also been a part of the School Association since Mad first started school, where I tend to end up on the barbecue – so this is my seventh year of over-cooking sausages and burgers!

As a career I have been in Software Development for almost twenty years, specialising in Functional Testing, and have recently started talking at International Conferences on various testing subjects, which can be quite nerve-wracking – but not as nerve-wracking as when I had to read out one of the 500 words winning stories to the whole school last year!

For my job I have to be very exact (more commonly referred to as being an ‘utter pedant’), and I try to bring the positive aspects of this into my Governing role – fact checking and adding rigour to what we do and the communications we provide.

I take a great deal of pride in what the Governors of the school have done in the last few years, and while I enjoy feeling I can make a difference on committees and providing support and ideas, my favourite times are always those when I spend time with the children – whether it’s reading with Class 1, talking to the older children about how they’re getting on, or joining in shouting ‘it’s behind you’ at the Christmas Panto!

Kevin Harris

Parent Governor and Vice Chair of Governors

Kevin became a Parent Governor in September 2014.

He is a member of the Curriculum Committee and Headteacher's Performance Management Committee. He is the Link Governor for Class 3.

Diane Pound

Co-opted Governor

Diane became a Co-opted Governor in January 2016.

She is a member of the Curriculum Committee and also the Link Governor for Class 2



I am a new Governor at Sherborne St John Primary School. I am originally from Altrincham just outside Manchester and after school I did a year on Voluntary Service Overseas in the West Indies after which I went to Warwick University to study History and then to Exeter where I completed my PGCE.

I started my teaching career in a Middle School in Worcestershire and then after getting married I moved with my husband, Chris, to South Wales where we lived for three years. I taught in several secondary schools in both Hampshire and Surrey until my retirement in 2012.

I have two children, Tom, who lives in Ash Vale with his wife, and Caroline who is an Infant teacher at Hook Infant School and who lives nearby in Popley.

We moved to Sherborne St John in December 2014 as we are both keen gardeners and wanted a larger plot to cultivate. It is no surprise then to learn that one of my great passions is gardening. I also enjoy walking, reading and learning to play the piano.

I'm looking forward to using my background in secondary teaching to bring an added perspective to the Governing Body.