



# GOVERNOR NEWSLETTER SPRING TERM

## Welcome to the Spring edition of the Governor newsletter

### So much to be proud of

What a term we've enjoyed. We were delighted so many parents took the opportunity to participate in our annual survey and hope you've had chance to see the results, either in the School newsletter or at a Parent Consultation evening. We were really pleased with the results and are working on building any actions into our ongoing school strategy.

This term our children have had the opportunity to participate in so many events and as a Governing Body were proud that the School is able to provide such a wide range of activities that support the curriculum and give our children opportunities to grow in all areas. Here are some of the activities:



As Governors we have been privileged to join the children at some of these events, what we call 'informal visits'. However, another important part of the role of a Governor is to undertake more formal monitoring visits which are directly linked to the school strategy. These could be classroom visits, we have one Governor linked to each of the four classes, or maybe a visit to review an area of safeguarding or e-safety. One area we monitor is the continued contribution of the School Council, so this term we joined one of their meetings and shared with them the results of the pupil survey to support them in deciding if there were areas they needed to follow up with their classes.

This edition of the Governor Newsletter also brings you the profiles of two more of our Governing Body; both of whom you will probably have regularly around our School one of our parent Governors, Priscilla Miller and Rev. John Hamilton.

 <b>Heidi Wadsworth</b> Chairman	 <b>Kevin Harris</b> Vice Chair	 <b>Priscilla Miller</b> Parent Governor	 <b>Rachel Ruane</b> Parent Governor	 <b>Diane Pound</b> Governor	
 <b>Wendy Lovett</b> Staff Governor	 <b>Lynda Harding</b> Foundation Governor	 <b>Karen Payne</b> Headteacher	 <b>Elizabeth Hatt</b> Governor	 <b>Rev. John Hamilton</b> Ex-officio	



I am aware in writing this that you are at an advantage! That is to say you have come along to end of term school services in church and therefore know who I am, whereas I do not know who many of you are!

I have been the Vicar here at St Andrews for 28 years. When I joined the Governing Body it was chaired by Henry Gray and was smaller and had as I remember more men than women! Today there is a need to move back in that direction! I have been a governor since the day I began work here as the local vicar. I am what is known as a Governor *ex officio* which is Latin for “it goes with the job” and means I cannot escape! I have seen a lot of changes over the years and generally they have been for the good.

I welcome the close relationship between the church and the School. It is a joy to be involved in Collective Worship and to have the School in the church building at the beginning and end of each term. I believe the Christian ethos of the School to be a vitally important aspect of its character and am able to grow this in my role as Chairman of the Ethos Committee.

I do hope I get to meet more of you both at School and in Church— we always welcome all school parents.

## Rev. John Hamilton

### Ex-officio

John Hamilton is Vicar of the Parish Church and therefore a Governor “*ex officio*”. He serves on the Human Resources Committee and is Chairman of the Ethos Committee.

## Priscilla Miller Parent Governor

Priscilla became a Parent Governor in September 2014. She is a member of the Finance & Facilities Committee and Ethos Committee. She is the Link Governor for Class 4 and has responsibility for safeguarding.



Until I became a school governor in July 2014 I had little idea of, what I now consider to be, an incredible group of people up and down the country who plough a huge amount of time and effort into their local school and it is an immense privilege to be part of the governing body here in Sherborne St John. There is a real vision, amongst us as a team, to continue to strive for high standards and maintain a happy environment where the whole school community can thrive.

I grew up in the village and my boys now find themselves at the school their great-great grandparents once attended. After my start at the primary school here, I went on to become an Occupational Therapist (O.T) but now find much of my time divided between the family farm, church volunteer work and of course the great, if not sometimes hazardous, career of being a parent. It may well be my background in O.T that gave me a real passion for giving individuals the chance to develop as a whole person and my faith that sees the importance of giving children a wonderful and safe place in which to grow and learn based on Christian values.

These interests led me to take an active role as the link governor to safeguarding and e-safety as well as become a member of the school ethos committee. Having carried out some project management work in the past I have a real interest in the grounds and buildings of the school and seek to make a contribution to the finance and facilities committee in this way, as well as represent the governors in relation to health and safety. I am also the link governor to class 4, which helps me to understand the school at ground level and gives wonderful opportunities to work alongside the children who are, after all, the point of it all!