



# GOVERNOR NEWS

## Autumn Term 2017

### Governing Body

Aaron Mulligan, Chair of Governors  
Rev Barbara Messham, Vice-Chair  
Jayne Neveu – Head Teacher  
Gill Holyoak - Clerk  
Jim Burrows - Foundation  
Sue Ross – Local Authority  
Angus McKenzie – Parent  
Eve Perry – Staff (Teaching)  
James Bowers – Co-opted  
Chris Davis – Parent  
Mike Ahearne - Parent  
Jenny Street – Associate

#### **We're here to help**

Please don't hesitate to talk to us if you have any queries about governorship or wish to speak to us about any aspect of school life – we want to work better together for the good of the children, the staff and the school.

### Dear Parents,

Unbelievably, it's nearly Christmas!! Yes, once again, we are drawing to the end of another year, and so much has happened during 2017 – We've even had our first SNOW DAY in many years.

Anyway, with some news about the governors and our wonderful School, here's the next installment of the Governor Newsletter.

#### **Governing Body Changes**

We were very glad to be able to welcome Mr Michael Ahearne as a new Parent Governor this term. We look forward to working with him.

Please get to know him, (and the rest of us) – our details are on the noticeboard in the school entrance hall, and on the website.

Read on to find out more...

## HOW GOVERNORS ARE ORGANISED

To help you better understand how we work with the School, here's a little about how we are organised.

Each Governor participates as part of the Full Governing Body that oversees the whole school generally, but also sits on at least one committee. The main committees are:

### Standards and Curriculum

These governors ensure teaching standards are high across the full, rich curriculum, and regularly review data and other measures to hold the school to account on its performance.

### Finance and Premises

Ensuring the school operates within regulated financial practices is essential. These governors also make sure the resources the school has (like staff, premises, materials and equipment) are properly maintained and funded.

### Ethos and Personnel

The vision and spiritual ethos at the heart of the school continues to define what we are trying to achieve for all children and staff. Ensuring their wellbeing and progression is a major focus for governors.

Children are our focus.  
Achievement,  
Respect and  
Excellence are our aims

### Performance Management

Another key aspect of governing is to review and appraise the school leadership, in line with targets and goals set by the Performance Management Committee. This ensures high standards are striven for and maintained. We are grateful to have fantastic school leadership, and appreciate the many hours sacrificing on behalf of the children.

### School Performance

Recently released national data has placed Deerhurst & Apperley in the **top 10%** of all school nationally. A great achievement for children, parents and staff to feel very proud of.

### Finally...

A huge 'well done' to everyone involved in the Christmas Nativity Play. Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children performed wonderfully, and reflected the feelings of this special season of the year - happiness, kindness and a sense of giving.

**Merry Christmas** to you all, and best wishes for the New Year.

See you in 2018.

*The Governors*

## GOVERNOR VISITS / ACTIVITIES

As always, a significant part of school governance is coming into the school and meeting with staff, doing 'learning walks' and general monitoring of each aspect of school life. This term we've been involved in:

- **Pupil Progress meetings** – with each Class Teacher and the Head. We review how each and every pupil is progressing toward their expected level. Teachers consistently demonstrate their outstanding knowledge of everyone in their class.
- **Reading visits each week** – listening to the children read is an important part of helping children learn to love books and reading.
- **Pupil Premium visit** – this regular meeting ensures the school is using the additional resources it receives to fully benefit the children entitled to the funding.
- **Subject Monitoring** – an opportunity to focus on a specific subject with the member of staff who is the Subject leader, ensuring best practice is being followed across the whole school.

## OFSTED Visit

As I'm sure everyone knows – we are anticipating a visit from Ofsted in the (very) near future! There has been such tremendous work put in over many months, to demonstrate that our School is performing to its very best. We hope this outstanding effort of the children, staff and parents will be appreciated and recognised.