

Governors' Newsletter



St. John the Baptist

Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School

Email: admin@st-john.essex.sch.uk

We Need a New Parent Governor

The closing date for a Parent Governor was last week but we did not get any nominations. If you are interested in being a Governor but missed the deadline, please let the school office know.

Update from Governing Body Meeting held 08.03.16 from Ann Roberts, Chair of Governors

SATS

In the summer term Year 2 and Year 6 will be the first to take the SATs papers which reflect the new National Curriculum and are intended to be more rigorous. There will be a new marking scheme to replace the 'old' National Curriculum Levels. Governors were updated on the school's preparation which includes children in Year 2 and Year 6 having practice papers. Pupils' marks in the tests will be used in conjunction with teacher assessment to give a broader picture of their attainment.

Staff Training

Mrs. De Pietro reported the extensive list of Continuous Professional Development undertaken by staff this term and the recent visits by staff to local schools. It is good practice for staff to work closely with colleagues in a range of other schools and Governors are grateful to Mrs. De Pietro for creating the links with schools for this to happen.

The school is also well supported by external professionals from County and the Diocese who make regular visits to offer support and challenge as we introduce the new National Curriculum.

Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND)

Mrs. De Pietro reported anonymously on the number of children receiving extra help in class. Governors were updated on the role of the Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO) who organizes this. Mrs. Jinks, a very experienced SENCO, is working closely with staff to ensure that all children requiring help are supported in the best way and timetables have been reviewed to reflect this.

Monitoring

Governors have visited school to report on the impact of actions to further raise standards in line with the challenging requirements of the new National Curriculum. There was unanimous praise for Mrs. De Pietro and all staff for their dedicated work particularly in English and Maths. An improved marking policy has been introduced and staff have revised timetables to allow more time for teaching Maths and English.

Governing Body

Mrs Ann Roberts-Foundation Governor - Chair

Mr Dave Holmes- Parent Governor-Vice Chair

Mr John Watts- Authority Governor

Mrs Janet Penfold-Foundation Governor

Mrs Alicia Watkins -Staff Governor

Mr James Tucker-Foundation Governor - Chair of Finance, Personnel & Premises

Clerk to Governing Body - Mrs. Glynis Haigh

Mrs Karen De Pietro – Headteacher- Ex Officio

Revd Gay Ellis-Foundation- Ex Officio

Mrs Vanessa Clandfield-Foundation Governor

Mrs Linda Holder - Foundation Governor

Mr Rupert Thomas-Foundation Governor -Chair of Curriculum

Vacancy - Parent Governor

On behalf of the Governing Body I would like to wish everyone a very Happy Easter.

Best Wishes, Ann