



# Governors' Newsletter 6

Spring Term 2017

## Governor's Deep Dive Day

One of the most important tasks of the Governing body is to monitor the performance of the school in all areas. To this end, on February 9<sup>th</sup> Governors came into school to observe and ask questions about a variety of activities and lessons in both Clover Hill and St Michael's. From Nursery through to Year 6 it was a pleasure to be able to watch in detail the two schools in action, to talk to the children and staff and to look at the work in the children's books, on the walls and in action in the classrooms.

Governors also examined some of the new teaching strategies which help with children's reading and writing, to make sure that the budget spent on training and equipment was good value for money.

They met with teachers to examine children's work to see the good progress your children make from term to term and how the assessment of the children informs the content of lessons to ensure their progress in Maths, Reading and Writing.

Governors also looked at the processes in place to ensure the children's well-being and safety is cared for by the pastoral team.

At the end of the day Governors met to talk over their experiences. They were very impressed with the professionalism and diligence of the staff, the attention and excellent behaviour of the children. Everyone in school works together to provide an atmosphere perfect for learning not just for lessons, but for life.

## Governors

All Angels' Governors are taken from a wide variety of experience and backgrounds. Here is a list of their names and the stakeholders they represent.

<b>Chair of Governors</b> Rosemary Games (Parish Church Council Governor)		<b>Vice Chair of Governors</b> Laurie Bolt (DBE Governor)	
<b>Bishop's Appointed Governor</b> Rev. Mark Elvin	<b>Headteacher</b> Helen McCarney		<b>Local Authority Governor</b> Linda Johnson
<b>Diocesan Board of Education Governors (DBE)</b> David Walker	<b>Parish Church Council Governors (PCC)</b> David Blake    Gavin Shiers    Jane Cole		<b>Parent Governors</b> Jayne Clark
<b>School Staff Governor</b> Kath Hunt			

Clerk to the Governors: Jennie Reynolds

If you wish to contact the Governors please do so via the Schools. Contact details are over the page.

### Five Key Principles

- ❖ Respectful
- ❖ Trustworthy
- ❖ Persevering
- ❖ Enterprising
- ❖ Successful

## Introducing Your Governors –

### Linda Johnson

When Linda retired as a Lawyer at Aviva she wanted to give something back to the community and become a School Governor. She was appointed LA Governor at Cloverhill in 2011 and to All Angels when the schools federated. She is lead Governor for Safeguarding, Safer Recruitment, Looked after children, Eco/Forest Schools and joint lead for Health & Safety.



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### Vacancies on the Governing Body

There is a vacancy on the Governing Body and we are looking for Parents, not necessarily of children at our schools, who are both committed and dedicated. If you feel you can support the school and community by joining us, or you know of someone who has the skills needed that can support the work of the Governing Body, please contact the Headteacher or Chair of Governors, Rosemary Games, via either of the schools. You can find more information about being a Governor on the schools' website – just click [HERE](#).

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### Defibrillators

With the help of Governor Gavin Shiers there is now a defibrillator in each school for use in emergencies for resuscitation. Gavin is a qualified nurse and arranged training for more than 40 members of staff in the use of this life saving equipment.

It is not just for use in the school, it is an important resource for the community and the more people who know it is in the school the better it will be used as a life-saving tool. Spread the word.

### Academy Status

As you will know from the letter sent out to parents, the Governing Body have decided not to go ahead with the proposed change to academy status. The change in the political climate and the success of the school caused Governors to reconsider their decision. It may be necessary to look at becoming an Academy in the future but, for the present, we believe we can serve our children and community more effectively by continuing with our current exciting programme for development and school improvement.

### New Classrooms at St Michael's

The rather rapid appearance of the structure outside St Michael's was quite surprising at first, but now that the building has windows it is starting to take on the sweeping curve that the plans promised us.

Because it is a separate building it has caused less disruption than other recent improvements, but the entrance to the main school is still restricted. Thank you for negotiating the obstructions sensibly.

Gill, the contractors, have tried their utmost to be amenable to the school's needs and even provided prizes for a poster competition, some of which are displayed on their fencing.

There is still a lot to do to the inside but when finished it will become a beautiful replacement for the mobile classrooms.

### End of the Financial Year

The beginning of April is the start of the financial year for most schools. In the month or so beforehand the Federation is preparing its budget for 2017-18.

The Headteacher, Finance Committee and office staff spend time in preparation to make sure that the schools' money is spent wisely and that it is used for the benefit of the children. It is also at this time year that we examine contracts for services the schools use to make sure they give value for money.

Here are a few of the expenses that you may not realise come out of the school budget:

- Insurances both for buildings and liability
- Legal and Financial Services
- Human Resource Services
- Waste Management
- Broadband
- IT services
- Catering
- Rates and Water Rates

### Feedback

Governors can be contacted by writing or emailing either of the schools in All Angels' Federation, please mark your communication for the attention of the Chair of Governors.

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