



Flore CE Primary School

Governor Newsletter

July 2019

Taking Footsteps in Learning, Building on the Foundations of Faith, for all our Futures
(Matthew 7:24-25)



Welcome to the 2019 Governor Newsletter.

This newsletter gives me the opportunity to reflect on another very busy academic year and to give you some insight on some of the Governing Bodies plans for the near future and what we are doing to improve our school.

Jon Lake
Chair of Governors

School vision

This year the school has worked hard to further build and develop our school vision and we believe that our vision statement now articulates what we are striving to achieve as a school both now and in the future.

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This is linked to the parable of the wise and foolish builders and enables the schools vision to be relevant to our children and the wider school wider community.

It provides a common goal for us all to reference and offers us a vehicle for progression and evolution. The vision is the start of the journey, it is a living statement that we are all now interweaving into every part of our school fabric. It will of course take time to become familiar and resonate with everyone but I have been delighted with the speed that the vision has already been embraced, especially by our children.



SIAMS Inspection

In June the school had a 'Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools', also known as a SIAMS inspection. An inspector spent the day in school looking at our religious education and how this links across the whole curriculum. The inspector graded the school as 'Good' and there were lots of very positive comments which were fed back in the inspection report which can be viewed on the schools website. We are very pleased with this outcome and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved – the children, staff, parents and governors who have been most involved in achieving this 'good' result.

School funding

Managing the school budget continues to be a real challenge and our three-year plan shows that we still need to look at ways to save money moving forward. We are certainly not alone with this and there are many schools across the county that are going through very challenging considerations on how they can save money in the near future. One of my duties as Primary Maintained Representative on the Northamptonshire Schools Forum is to ensure that the government recognises the challenges that our schools face. Some research that was recently carried out for this purpose demonstrated that Northamptonshire continues to be underfunded when compared to other Local Authority area – for instance

Northamptonshire's budget allocation for the forthcoming year(2019/20) is **£242 less** per primary aged pupil compared with the average local authority in England and **£1,428 less** for London Boroughs(Westminster) pupils. Just filling this £242 'void' would certainly help us to continue to provide a well-rounded curriculum for our children and it is something I hope that the government can look to address very soon.



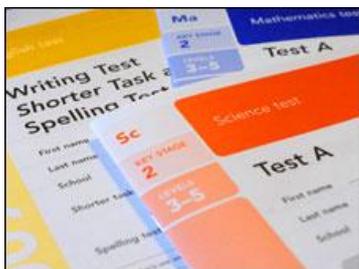


Attendance

Whilst attendance at Flore is generally good, we are acutely aware that it could be better and are aware of the evidence that shows the link between poor attendance and poor attainment – children who do not attend school struggle to keep up with work and miss out on social elements of the school day. Whilst we do understand that there are times when children are just too ill to attend, please do let the school know if there are any issues which could impact on your child’s attendance at school.

Home Learning

We do not underestimate the partnership that we have with our parents and carers in maximising the potential that our children have to learn. Our attitudes about education can inspire children and show them how to take charge of their own educational journey. The school really value the input that parents and carers have in supporting learning objectives and reading at home, engaging in homework and projects and looking for any other learning opportunity whilst your children are not at school all helps. Simple everyday things like calculating the cost of your shopping or reading a menu when you go out for something to eat all have positive effects.



SATs results

We are disappointed with our recent Year 6 SATs result and are evaluating the data to identify where there may have been opportunities to improve the outcomes for our children. I know that there is an on-going debate about the value of testing primary aged children but whilst it is a statutory requirement, the school will do all we can to provide the very best education for our children whilst ensuring that they leave our schools with a confidence and belief in themselves. This to us transcends exam results which, whilst important, are only a ‘snapshot’ in time.

Spectacular Sporting Success

We have had another exceptional year with sport this year. You only need to see the weekly newsletter to hear of our next sporting success! This all culminated in the school winning the Sports School of the Year at the Daventry District Sports Awards back in October. A big thank you to Mrs. Chick for her expert PE teaching and for making our children believe in their sporting abilities. Nominations are now open for the 2019 Sports Awards so let’s hope that we can retain the award that I believe we deserve.



Interested in being a Governor?

We are a small but very committed Governing Body with some really broad expertise and experience. Our constitution is regularly reviewed and we carry out annual skills audits to ensure we have the right skill set to continue to develop. If you are interested in joining us or know someone who could be, please do not hesitate to let the school office know so they can pass on the details to the Chair of Governors to follow up.



	Jon Lake Chair of Full Governing Board		Alex Duncan Vice Chair, Chair of Finance & Resources Committee		Rev'd Stephen Burrow Foundation Governor
	Hayley Davies Chair of Performance Management Committee		Anthony Harris Chair of Safeguarding & Standards		Joy Rippon New Governor Mentor, Pupil Premium Lead Governor
	Roberta Woolridge-Smith Chair of SIAMS Committee		Melanie Whitlock Headteacher		Ms. Birch Staff Governor



To all of the children, staff, parents and carers of Flore CE Primary – have a fantastic summer.

