



Summer 2016

Welcome to the summer edition of the Governor Newsletter. In this edition: Chris Lemming pays tribute, on behalf of The Governing Body, to Assistant Head Teacher, Mike Smith, who is leaving at the end of this term; following on from the Spring Edition of The Governor Newsletter, and in response to the parental request for information about what Governors do, we'll look at the functions of another Committee, The Premises & Safeguarding Committee; and I've included the profiles of a further two Governors. *Claire Baker*

MIKE SMITH, ASSISTANT HEAD TEACHER

You will all have heard that Mike Smith, our Assistant Head Teacher, is leaving the school at the end of this term. Both personally and on behalf of the governors I would like to publicly thank Mike for the many years of committed service he has given to the school. It has been a pleasure to work with him and we wish him well for the future. Talking to a member of the School Council recently he summed it up by saying about Mr Smith - "He cares". *Chris Lemming*

PREMISES AND SAFEGUARDING COMMITTEE

The Premises and Safeguarding Committee covers all issues relating to Health and Safety as well as the school buildings and grounds. As with most of the Governor Committees it normally meets each term and through extra meetings if necessary. In between meetings governors with special responsibilities (Health and Safety and Child Protection) will meet with appropriate school staff to encourage and review progress.

We have a school which has grown over many years and is made up of buildings which vary widely in age. Described by some as a "rabbit warren" it poses a challenge to new children and visitors. It also provides a maintenance challenge, particularly where there are adjoining roofs - some of which are very difficult to get at! We are also blessed with flat roofs which bring their own maintenance challenge. We have several leaks at present resulting in damp in some of the walls. We hope to be able to address most of these problems during the summer holiday due to special ERYC funding, which we will receive thanks to Ms Ross' successful negotiations with the council.

The school receives a central government grant of around £6000 year for these type of Capital works. Such a grant does not go very far!

Health and Safety covers a very wide range of areas which include:

Child protection, which is a vital feature of the school and rightly gets a great deal of attention. Dealing with specific cases is not the responsibility of the governors, any incidents are handled by specially trained members of staff. But governors are responsible for ensuring that the proper policies and procedures are in place and are being followed.

E Safety for children and staff, which is a growing issues with the increase of social networking. The school not only has policies and procedure but takes its responsibilities of educating our children very seriously.

The school has an Emergency Action Plan which needs to be regularly monitored for accuracy.

Each term the whole of the site is checked out and a report is produced on the state of all buildings and grounds. This goes to the termly Full Governors Meeting. *Chris Lemming*



Governor Profiles



CHRIS LEMMING

For most of my career I managed multinational engineering companies. At the age of 50 I made a complete career change, joining a large girls' grammar school in Kent as Deputy Head and Business Manager. After 10 years my wife and I fulfilled our plan to retire at the age of 60 and make ourselves available for Christian service and community involvement, and that is what we have tried to do over the past years. With daughters and grandchildren in Hull and York we felt the time had come to move to Yorkshire ourselves, choosing Holme on Spalding Moor as a mid-point. We have been in the village since 2006 and love it here. We believe that our faith should result in action to the benefit of the whole community and it is good to be able to serve the community in many ways. Soon after we arrived Debbie Bullock discovered my background in education and I was asked to join the governing body of our village school. I see that as a privilege and thoroughly enjoy the involvement with staff and children. Since 2010 I have served as Chair of Governors.



CLAIRE BAKER

I moved to Holme on Spalding Moor in 2006 & have two boys who attend HOSM Primary School. I graduated from Leeds Metropolitan University in 2004, having studied Business Studies, and embarked on a career in retail management before leaving in 2012. At that time, with two young children, I threw myself into being a 'mummy' & joined The Committee of HOSM Baby & Toddler Group. I began supporting the school by listening to readers, which I still enjoy, when my eldest son started school, but joined the Governing Body because I wanted to increase my level of commitment & involvement in the school. I identified strongly with what The Governing Body sees as their role: "to actively support, encourage, monitor and challenge the school staff and children. Our desire is to see children develop into well rounded young people while they are in our care".