

**GROWING AND LEARNING TOGETHER AS PART OF
GOD'S FAMILY TO BE THE BEST THAT WE CAN BE.**

GOVERNOR UPDATE

www.stteresas.herts.sch.uk

Summer Term 2017

Teaching and Learning Committee Update

The Diamond Jubilee events have provided us with some memorable celebrations to mark the 60 years of St. Teresa's School and have also given the children some great opportunities to learn about the periods since the opening of our school and how things have changed over time. We would like to thank all parents and carers for supporting the children in these learning activities.

You will have noticed that improving maths has been in the spotlight all through this school year and it will continue to be a priority as we begin the new school year next September. This year the teachers have been using the mastery approach to help pupils to develop a deep and secure knowledge and understanding of maths at each stage of their learning. The teachers have had the support of an external specialist to enhance their teaching of the subject, and the staff team have noted that the pupils are showing a marked improvement in their attitude towards maths.

The teachers have planned ahead for the new school year and have also researched new resources which will support the teaching of maths. The theme for next year will be 'Making Maths Matter' and we will be asking that parents and carers give their support to the learning activities that the children will take part in over the school year. The summer holidays provide the children with a long and well deserved break however we would ask that you continue to support their learning during the holidays by taking advantage of opportunities to practise maths in daily life and as a part of fun activities and games. Whilst we don't want to dampen the holiday mood we would also be encouraging of children taking opportunities to read where possible also!

The teaching and learning committee along with the full governing body continue to monitor the progress of each class in all subject areas and fully support all the individual and group interventions that are deployed to support pupils' learning and give them the best possible chance of reaching their potential in each subject. Your role as parents and carers is essential in ensuring that these approaches are fruitful.

We say good bye and good luck to our Year 6 Class as they move onto secondary schools. Congratulations on the excellent SAT's results and the governors would like to thank Year 6 for their commitment to Behaviour for Learning and for acting as good role models for the rest of the school.

Paul Clancy – Teaching and Learning Committee



Governing Body Update

We say thank you and goodbye to Emmanuel Asare-Bekoe who has served as an Associate Governor responsible for Health and Safety. Michael Keller is stepping down from the parent governor position but will remain on the Governing body as an Associate Member. We also welcome Angela Carazo Gormley and Fran Jefferies as a Foundation Governors. When we return in September election for a new parent Governor will be conducted.

The Governing Body also had their share of a busy year. The Teaching & Learning Committee and Resources Committee have had to carefully consider the challenges ahead in line with significant education policy changes whilst carrying out our core function of

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction.
- Holding the Head teacher to account on academic performance and
- overseeing financial performance

Finance Update

Our 2016/17 year end account shows a carry forward of £99,552 (please see report on school website) and we continue to exercise financial prudence when setting future budgets. However Government plans to introduce a new national funding formula in 2018/19 will see many schools funding cut including our schools. Parents were sent a letter back in May highlighting the current financial difficulties all schools in the country are facing. The Resource committee have been proactive at looking at future budgets and continue to look at ways of ensuring we continue to achieve financial efficiency and stability.

LCVAP – unfortunately we were not successful with our bid for the grant.

Message from the Chair of Governors

We come to the end of a special school year – 60 Years of providing Catholic education to the children of Borehamwood. I am sure you will all agree with me that the line up of events was truly a remarkable and memorable one. To recap, we celebrated our Diamond Jubilee Mass with Bishop John Wilson (who officially opened of our new Forest School to mark the occasion) our fantastic festival organised by the Friends of St Teresa's and the grand finale of the Happy Circus organised by the staff. Least I forget the excellent display and performance of the past 60 years by the children (which I have to say was my favourite) really brought the celebration together. All the above would not have been possible without the commitment and support of our wonderful school community.

Firstly a BIG WELL DONE to all the children for an excellent school year. To our future leaders in the making - the school council for being the pupils' voice and the house captains for all your fundraising initiatives. Thank you for your positive and excellent Behaviour for Learning.

As a school community we acknowledge the big role played by our parents in supporting the school and your children. We are privileged to have such a dedicated and committed group of parents working with us. Our partnership with you is undoubtedly our greatest strength and to this we say a BIG THANK YOU. We look forward to your continued support and commitments in the new academic year to ensure all the children of St Teresa's "grow and learn together, as part of God's family, to be the best they can be."

Thank you to our dedicated and committed team of staff who strives tirelessly each day to do their best for the children. To the Senior Leadership team thank you for maintaining positive attitude and effective leadership despite growing changes to the education framework.

Finally it seems like only yesterday that our Year 6 pupils were just starting out in Reception! We are really proud of them – each one has been a fantastic ambassador for our School. We are all very sad to see them go, but we wish them all the very best as they continue their learning journeys.



On behalf of the Full Governing Body I wish you all a restful and enjoyable summer holiday break.

God Bless

Florence Zakari-Ayankoya
Chair

