

Dear Parents and Carers,

I'd like to thank Mrs Slocombe for giving me the opportunity to introduce myself to you all and to welcome you to the first Governors' newsletter. I'm very excited to have been given the privilege to chair the Radstock governing body. Thank you to Andy Randall for his kindness and help to me personally and for his work as the outgoing chair, not least in steering Radstock through a considerable period of change. I hope to continue to provide updates to parents via this newsletter during my time as chair.

Since I've been a member of the governing body, it's been interesting to see all of the hard work put in by the different groups and communities that make our school the fantastic place that it is. When I have visited the school and observed the teaching staff at work, their obvious love for teaching and learning has been both infectious and inspiring. Talking to the pupils also reminds me how excited about learning they are. I've seen the hard work and dedication Mrs Slocombe, Mrs Giles and the rest of the leadership team have put into developing a clear and comprehensive plan for Radstock's future. Our school does face some significant challenges in the next few years, both financially and in ensuring that our teaching and learning is the best it can be for all of our pupils. However, I and the other governors have huge confidence in the staff and leadership of the school to tackle these challenges together.

Our governing body is a part of the leadership team for the school, playing the same role as a company board. We scrutinise not only the future plans for Radstock, but also how these plans are implemented and if and how they have been successful. During the Autumn Term, Radstock governors have made 13 visits to the school during the school day to observe lessons and talk to teaching staff. The governors have given more than 120 hours in time to school committees that cover resources, teaching and learning, school strategy and links with our partner schools in the School's Learning Alliance. Many of the members of the governing body have given many years of service to the school and it is likely, due to retirement, that there will be a number of vacancies for new governors in 2018. We would love to hear from anyone who is passionate about Radstock and wants to give their time and expertise to improving the school for all pupils. We are currently creating a person specification for new governors, but if anyone who has expertise in any field of education is interested, this would be particularly welcome.

I know that many people reading this letter will already be contributing to the school as a parent helper in class or as a member of the Friends of Radstock. I want to say a huge thank you on behalf of the governing body to all of you for your time and dedication. It is vital that Radstock continues to be, above all else, a vibrant, fun and exciting community for pupils, staff and parents and your hard work helps to make it one.

If you have questions or ideas about the future of Radstock or the governing body, I'm very open to hearing from you. You can usually find me on the playground at pick-up time on a Monday and Friday and alternate Thursdays or contact the school and they will pass the message on to me.



As a parent and a governor, I've been inspired to think a lot more about who and what we are as a community by the great new logo and motto for our school. I personally love the idea of our collective group of young dragonflies 'Soaring for Success.' Together we can make sure that our school provides the opportunities that all of our pupils need to find their own version of success and that our ambition matches their own desire to soar!

Best wishes,
Andrew Charlton-Perez (Dad to Christopher, Y1 and James, Y4)