



## SUMMER EDITION 2018

Welcome to the Summer Edition of the Governor Newsletter. I can't believe we've reached the end of another academic year & my first as Vice Chair of the Governing Body. In this edition: I've included a message from our Chair of Governors, Chris Lemming; a paragraph about the role of our Safeguarding Governor, Charlotte Bower; and I've also included the profile of our newest Governing Body member, Diane Stead.

*Claire Baker, Vice-Chair*

A message from our Chair of Governors, Chris Lemming

As we approach the end of the school academic year we look back on quite an eventful year. It would be wrong of me not to start without congratulating everyone involved in the very good KS2 SATs results. They are a real credit to the children, staff, and you the parents and round off the school year with a triumph!

In September we welcomed our new Headteacher, Mr Steve Woodhouse. Appointing a new leader is always a risk both for the organisation and the individual. Steve has had a real baptism of fire with many unexpected serious situations to deal with. I would like to register my appreciation for the way in which he has handled these, whilst remaining sensitive to the needs of children, staff, and parents.

Throughout this academic year, staff have had to deal with a new government imposed appraisal system. Like most major changes there are teething troubles, but the staff responded well to the changes. We hope that we will have many years with no more fundamental changes, but I wouldn't place a bet on this, since every Secretary of State for Education wants to make their own mark on the education system.

I am sure that you will all have read about poor school funding from central and local government. Thanks to good management and forecasting our school looks like it will have a balanced budget for the coming year without any staff restructuring. There are things we would like to be able to do, but unless the financial environment changes we will focus on being able to provide all the quality of education which our school is proud of.

The Governing Body has not been immune to change. It is strange how such bodies can remain unchanged for a period and then suddenly several changes take place. Mark Reilly-Usher (Vice Chair and Leader of Resources Committee) and Sharon Gant (Leader of the Curriculum Committee) have left during this year and Charlotte Bower (Safeguarding) will be leaving in November at the end of her four years appointment. I would like to publicly thank all these people for the voluntary contribution they have made to the school. We are blessed by the fact that we have good people available to fill the vacancies.

A big thank you to all those involved in voluntary and paid roles within our school community. We are a great team.

*Chris Lemming, Chair of Governors*

The Role of the Safeguarding Governor, Charlotte Bower

Along with the governing body I ensure that the appropriate policies and procedures are in place. This is important so that the appropriate action can be taken in a timely manner in order to safeguard and promote children's welfare. Governors are expected to establish and maintain effective safeguarding arrangements. Dealing with specific cases is not the responsibility of the governors, any incidents are

handled by specially trained members of staff. Steve Woodhouse is HOSM School's designated safeguarding lead and Aileen Rush is the deputy safeguarding lead. The school has a Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy which is updated every year and discussed with all members of staff and governors. As a governor I am required to ensure that all members of staff complete the relevant safeguarding training. Governors also complete safeguarding training. I meet with Mr Woodhouse on a regular basis to ensure all policies, procedures and training are effective, up to date and comply with statutory guidance. Each year we meet to complete a safeguarding self-assessment form and later in the year we complete an annual safeguarding report, both of which are presented to the full governing body and submitted to the East Riding. As Safeguarding Governor, I am also responsible for ensuring policies and procedures are in place in relation to e-safety. HOSM School has a group consisting of staff and myself who oversee and monitor e-safety procedures.

*Charlotte Bower*

## **GOVERNOR PROFILES**



**DIANE STEAD**

I have lived in Holme on Spalding Moor for 6 years having moved here after retiring. I am originally from Leeds but spent 18 years bringing up my family in Norfolk. I have 2 girls. One is a drama teacher at a secondary school in Maidenhead and the other daughter is presently in her final year of a PhD at Leeds University. My husband was a parent governor for 12 years at both the primary and secondary schools that my daughters attended, so I was always very much aware of the work involved in being a governor. My background is secretarial having spent 13 years working at Leeds University prior to getting married and eventually moving to Norfolk with my husband's work. On arrival of our children I helped with reading in the primary school and eventually ran the village playgroup. I then moved to a school nursery attached to a primary school where I also worked as a classroom assistant. I was involved with all the school years and helped with all subjects. I was also present at numerous Ofsted inspections. Prior to retirement I worked for 5 years at Norfolk County Council in Children's Services processing the Statements for Special and Additional Needs. This included contact with parents, headteachers and the various medical practitioners involved in the process. I would now like to bring some of my experience to the school having spent many years involved with education in one way or another. I am a member of the Church choir and also the village bowling club.