



Yaxham Primary School | Governors Newsletter – Autumn 2020

Welcome to our first Governors newsletter. We are very pleased to be able to share with you some of the work that the Governing Body did during the Autumn term of this academic year. We are planning to release a newsletter at the start of each new term to give all of our parents a review of the previous term at school. If there are any areas that parents would like to see included, please let the school know office know.

Your School Governors – Who We are

Here is a brief introduction of who your school governors

Chair of Governors – Michelle Parnell (Parent Governor)
Vice-Chair of Governors – Claire Sullivan (Foundation Governor)
Leroy Burrell (PCC Governor)
Annette Cheeseman (Foundation Governor)
Ben Conway (Parent Governor)
Ann Futter (Foundation Governor)
Su McKinnell (Foundation Governor)
Andrea Woods (Bishops Governor)

Each Governor has responsibilities for different areas of learning at school:

Michelle Parnell – EYFS, Curriculum subjects, English, Looked After Children

Ben Conway – SEND, Languages

Ann Futter – Science, PE, Pupil Premium

Leroy Burrell – Collective Worship, Maths, Curriculum Subjects, Safeguarding

Claire Sullivan – English, Maths, Curriculum Subjects

Andrea Woods – Collective Worship, RE

Su McKinnell – EYFS

Annette Cheeseman - English





This term we saw some changes to the Governing Body. Claire Sullivan stepped down as Chair of Governors and Ann Futter stepped down as Vice-Chair of Governors. Michelle Parnell was elected Chair of Governors and Claire Sullivan was elected Vice-Chair of Governors. We currently have two vacancies within the Governing Body, the first is for a Local Authority Governor and the second is for a Staff Governor. If anyone knows anyone interested in becoming a Local Authority Governor, please speak to the school office for more information.



The Governors had a busy Autumn term, with two full governing body meetings, several smaller committee meetings. Monitoring visits have also been made by governors responsible for individual aspects of the school. Last term these were early years, collective worship, SEND, Science, Maths and English. During these visits, governors discussed and viewed progress in each area and noted and reported where further progress was needed. Our findings are briefly outlined below:

Early Years

The layout of classroom has been changed for the better. The teacher was using Planning in the Moment effectively.

Collective Worship

The whole school walked to church, there was evidence of the children supporting each other and behaviour was very good. The children engaged well with the collective worship.

Science

There was strong evidence of consistent teaching of Science across all classes. The older children need to remember to have pride in their work. The curriculum plan for KS1 needs to be updated.

Maths

There was evidence of consistent teaching across all classes.

English

Presentation was good at the start of term, but got slightly worse as the term progressed. There was good use of vocabulary and some evidence of Let's Think in English being used but not in all classes. All classes have a class book. On average, only 20% of children have recorded reading everyday. The reading areas in most classes need work to make them more inviting.

Governors are involved in the school in more informal ways too. This has involved attending parent assemblies, joining in parents afternoons, attending Friends events and watching events. A particular highlight was the Nativity. Staff had worked exceptionally hard to produce an entertaining performance in which all of the younger children could take part in. The Christmas Carol service was equally enjoyable and we were treated to some beautiful singing.



Schools are required to inform the local authority of any pupil who is regularly absent from school, has irregular attendance or has missed 10 consecutive sessions (1 morning or afternoon is one session) without the Headteacher's permission.

Establishing good attendance patterns from an early age will help children later in life. Employers want to recruit people who are reliable, so getting children to attend school regularly instills this behaviour. Being on time is also vital. Arriving late for school can be disruptive for your child, the teacher and also other children in the class.

We hope you have found this newsletter useful, next term we will be undertaking monitoring in many areas including RE, Geography, Computing and PE and we are looking forward to sharing our findings with you.

Have a happy and restful half term!

The Governors of Yaxham Primary School