

Name:

Class:



# Governor Newsletter

www.compton-cofe-primary.org

March 2017 Ed.21



Dear Everyone,

Well, another busy term has passed. As governors, we have attended two Finance and Premises meetings this term, rather than the usual one, in addition to the Pastoral and Curriculum committee and Full Governors meetings. The additional meeting was required to tackle and track the situation that many schools find themselves in, namely that of insufficient funding. This topic is something that will continue to dominate in the academic terms ahead, as the impact and changes to National Funding Formulas become clearer, as the issues related to many schools joining into multi-academy trusts (MATs) become more apparent within the local authority, and the effects that this will have on remaining schools becomes evident.

Despite these major issues, we continue to look ahead and are fully committed to providing that Excellence, Opportunity and Innovation presented to governors, by Mr Oakshott in a briefing paper as key priority areas, in our most recent meeting.

Excellence in standards and the education that we offer, our commitment to ensuring that there is no lessening of the Opportunities afforded to our children and Innovation in the ways that our school addresses and utilises the current situation. It was great to hear, as an example of this, the introduction of the 300 lottery club as an avenue to boost school fund – and good luck to all taking part!

As ever, we would like to encourage you all to visit our school website to keep fully updated on everything that is happening in school and for information about the Governing Body ([www.compton-cofe-primary.org](http://www.compton-cofe-primary.org)). The website is currently being improved and updated by a new provider, to make it more 'user-friendly' and should be ready to relaunch at the end of this academic year. In the meantime, let me take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy Easter,

Cath Smith (Chair of Governors)

## **Finance and Premises Committee, 14/3/17**

It was reported that Mrs Bell, as School Business Manager, was inspected by Devon Auditors for a full financial audit of her systems and accounts. We were delighted that there were no recommendations for improvements to be made. This is a great achievement and we thank Mrs Bell for all her hard work.

Finalising the details of this year's budget, and attempting to set a new budget, without all of the information needed from DfE and PCC, meant that the original Finance meeting had already been delayed by a week.

Budgetary issues and lack of funding continue to dominate discussions in this committee meeting. As you may have seen in national news, less income in school budgets is a major cause of concern for all, and the governors face a difficult task in balancing books. Avenues to increase income are constantly being explored. Whilst difficult financial decisions are forced upon us, our primary concern is to ensure that the children's education remains our top priority.

## **Pastoral and Curriculum Committee 7 /3/17**

Topics for discussion during this meeting included the arrangements and preparations in place for the KS2 SATs. Information regarding new legislation that may impact was shared with governors, as well as the support approaches undertaken in school in order to prepare all children. Safeguarding and the proposals to enable our school site to be made even more secure, were discussed.

There were policies to be reviewed, among them the Behaviour policy. Governors worked closely with Mr Phillips (who had already worked with the children and staff of the school) to ensure that the document accurately reflected the ethos of our school.

## **Attendance Reminder**

Don't forget that if you book a dentist or medical appointment for your child after they have attended registration (8.55am or 1.25pm), this does not affect their attendance figures!

## **How to contact your Governors.....**

If you wish to write to the governing body, this can be done by handing a letter in at the school office addressed to the Chair of Governors, or by e-mail via :

**[compton.ce.primary.school@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:compton.ce.primary.school@plymouth.gov.uk)**

While we welcome letters and value your comments, initial complaints and issues relating to the day to day running of the school, should in the first instance be discussed with your child's teacher or referred to the head teacher, Mr Oakshott.

Our very best wishes, again, for a sunny Easter holiday,

The Governing Body