

Name:

Class:



Governor Newsletter

www.compton-cofe-primary.org

July 2017 Ed.22



Dear Everyone,

I witnessed my first Compton Leavers' service last week, as my son Joe is just finishing year 6. It was an uplifting and emotional evening, as our Year 6 showed us how far they have come, and shared their happy memories of their time at Compton. It is moments like that which remind me how very lucky our children are to be at a school which offers them so much more than the 'SATS factory' approach to primary education frequently covered in the media.

For me, it helped to put this year in perspective as well, as the Governors have faced many challenges since September. As well as getting to know our new Headteacher, we have had to cope with the most stringent budget for many years, a bereavement and other crises, but the sight of 62 year 6 children, brimming with confidence and sharing their talents, made it all worthwhile.

Having gone through the very painful redundancy process and increased our admission numbers in year 3 and 4, one bit of good news is that our budget at the moment looks balanced for the next 4 years. That is a massive achievement, and puts us in a much more secure position.

It was good to meet so many of you at the Headteacher meetings before half term, and I know Mark now plans to hold Headteacher meetings every term in the future. Hopefully the news next term will be more positive, and we can use this channel of communication to take the school onwards and upwards together. May I encourage all of you to use the new school website when it goes live. The events calendar should make things a lot easier.

Speaking of achievements, the SATS results, both in Year 2 and Year 6 are very strong again this year, which is testament to the huge efforts put in by all staff and children - well done everyone!

Praise should also go to the fabulous School Association who have had their most successful year to date - many thanks to all those who have contributed time and/or funds to help.

So, as another academic year finishes, we wish our Year 6 all the best in their new schools, and look forward to welcoming a new Foundation cohort in September.

With all best wishes for a relaxing and restorative (and sunny - fingers crossed!) summer break,

Cath Smith (Chair of Governors)

Combined Pastoral and Curriculum Committee and Finance and Premises Committee, 27/7/17

In addition to the usual policies to approve and information regarding Continuing Professional Development of staff, the main topics for this meeting continued to be the budget, and the implications thereof, the launching of a new school website and improvements made to assessment tracking systems over the past year.

A Christian ethos group has been set up among staff, in order to address items from the last SIAMS church school inspection.

Governors were shown the new tracking system, and informed of the improvements that this will make in school's ability to track progress for each child under the new curriculum.

As mentioned above in Cath's opening section, the new school website will soon be up and running. We were all very impressed by its more up-to-date and user friendly system, which we feel will enable everyone to more easily find out about school events and dates etc.

Full Governors, 19/7/17

The governors considered the Headteacher's report in its new format, and were impressed by its clarity and organisation. KS1 data showed a big improvement in attainment, and it was clear that this year's KS2 SATs results were spectacular- our congratulations were passed to all staff and pupils involved. The focus for the coming year would include a page for governors to enter information regarding their visits (a 'learning walk' governor event was planned for a half day in the Autumn term) and a whole school focus on learning behaviours and building resilience among pupils. Communication with parents was discussed, after some parents had suggested that the current Home Contact system could be improved. A training session with a Governor support advisor was suggested for the near future. Governors also voted to change the structure of the current committee meetings, to instead make all 6 throughout the year, open to all governors, thus avoiding duplication and ensuring all governors involvement in all areas.

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

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 and relaxing summer holiday,

The Governing Body