

Name:

Class:



Governor Newsletter

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July 2018 Ed.24



Dear Everyone,

We reach the end of another action-packed school year, and once again, it has been full of 'enrichment'. I was fortunate to see the tremendous drama production of 'Beauty and the Beast' last week, and I know the children have been out on numerous school trips, sporting competitions and other activities. Many thanks to all of the staff who work so hard to provide the children with so many great opportunities.

As our year 6 children are preparing to finish their Compton journey and move on to pastures new, we wish them all good fortunes in their future endeavours. The children have worked very hard during their time here, as evidenced by another set of good SATS results, but more importantly, another cohort of children have had fantastic opportunities to grow and develop during their time here at Compton, and leave here well prepared for their future in secondary school and beyond.

This term, the Governors have been focussing on our school development plan, and looking at how best to use our resources. The fantastic sum raised by the School Association this year (thank you!) means that we are in a position to go ahead with improvements to the school field over the summer. We are also actively looking to improve teaching space across the school, with several innovative schemes being considered now that our budget is more stable.

Before our last Governors meeting, we undertook a "learning walk" where many governors spent an afternoon in school, visiting classrooms and meeting with key staff members to get a better understanding of our link areas. I spent time in KS1 hearing about an exciting new phonics system which is being rolled out, and then sat in on a year 5/6 RE lesson where the children were exploring the differences between different faiths, followed by a music lesson where the children were using 3 different pieces of music to influence their composition of a piece of 'happy music'. As always it was a privilege to be invited into the classrooms and to see the way the curriculum is being delivered in an innovative and stimulating way.

This is my final newsletter as Chair of governors - I have handed that role on to Jon Halton and will continue as a governor for one more year. I wish you all a healthy, happy and restorative summer break.

Catherine Smith
Chair of Governors

Governor Involvement

This term many of the governors were able to come into school for a 'learning walk'. They spent time popping in and out of classes, looking at the learning that was taking place, talking to children about their work and to staff about areas they felt could be addressed in the future to further benefit the children. The experience was helpful in deepening their knowledge and understanding of governor decision, making impacts on school life. All governors involved commented on how valuable they felt this afternoon had been, and how much they had enjoyed being in class. It is certainly something we will repeat in the future. Governors have also spent more time this year meeting members of staff to discuss the data linked with different phases of the school. Again, this has been very valuable, enabling governors to challenge, but also to gain an understanding into the processes and strategies put into place to continue to improve and achieve our high standards.

Stepping down

Cath Smith has been a parent governor since 2011, and took on the role of Chair in September 2015. The role of Chair of Governors carries huge legal responsibility and requires an enormous time commitment. Cath has been an excellent Chair of Governors: organised, informed, willing to commit her time and dedicated to doing her best for our school. We would all like to thank her for her dedication and hard work. She will be continuing as a governor for the next year, in order to support a smooth transfer of her responsibility to Jon Halton, who assumes the role in this term's meeting.

After 13 years of service as Clerk to the Governors, Mrs Bell has decided to step down from the role. She has done a fantastic job. At our final meeting of this year, she was presented with a bouquet of flowers, as a token of our gratitude for all of her hard work in recording and circulating minutes of meetings, ensuring policies and correspondence are available and many other unseen areas. Mrs Vatcher will be taking over the role in September.

How to contact your Governors.....

Parents are welcome to contact a governor directly. 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 for an enjoyable Summer break,
The Governing Body