

Name: _____

Class: _____



Governor Newsletter

www.compton-cofe-primary.org

December 2016 Ed.20



Dear Everyone,

As I write this, the run up to Christmas is just beginning. I can't wait to have my spirits lifted by the sound of 421 children raising the roof at Emmanuel church with their singing. Christmas at Compton doesn't happen without a huge amount of effort from all of the staff and wider Compton community, including of course, our fabulous School association who do so much for our school. Thank you all for your efforts.

This term the Governors have been focusing hard on the financial challenges we face. We are carefully considering a number of options. As always, we are working hard to maintain our School values, and Compton ethos in all of our decisions. This approach stood us in good stead when appointing our new Headteacher, and we hope that it will see us through this challenging time too.

You will remember that we were inspected by Ofsted last term. Whilst our overall grading has not changed (Good with outstanding features), the feedback that we received suggested that we had made great improvements since the previous inspection. We are incorporating the Ofsted recommendations into our Development plan. During the Ofsted visit, many of you kindly completed the ParentView survey. Much of what you said was very complimentary, but some felt that communication about children's progress could be improved. Don't forget that class teachers are always happy to make appointments to discuss concerns you may have. I hope you were able to engage with the 'Meet the Headteacher' sessions earlier this term. The feedback you gave was very useful, and has been shared with the Governors.

The governors were sorry to receive the resignation of foundation governor, Karl Godfrey, this term. I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for his time working with the governing body.

Finally I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy, Healthy and Peaceful Christmas on behalf of all of the school governors.

Catherine Smith
Chair of Governors

Full Governors Meeting 1/12/16

Following the meetings of the Pastoral & Curriculum committee, and the Finance & Premises committee earlier in the term, the full governing body met in early December. As is usual for the first meeting of the academic year, there was much in the way of general 'housekeeping' and routine structure/procedures to be discussed and agreed.

The governors received the Headteacher's Report, data has been scrutinised and new targets agreed for the year ahead.

Our school budget continues to raise challenges, as due to national funding formulas, we receive substantially less than many schools, with further cuts being forecast. Despite being recognised as running a highly efficient and highly performing school, the governors are aware that this budgetary situation cannot be ignored, and will continue to explore all avenues to address the issues.

Term dates were set for the academic year 2017-18.

Jackie Price

The governors fulfil their role as strategic decision makers for the school, on a purely voluntary basis. Attending meetings and reading around agendas can take a lot of time on top of their own working and family lives.

Added to this commitment, we are delighted that so many of our governing body choose to come in to school during the working day, and spend time in the classrooms, meeting the staff and children, in order to support them in making wise decisions.

These visits have proved very enjoyable, as well as useful in helping to visualise and see in practice, the issues and impact of decisions that we are asked to consider.

Who are the Governing Body?

The structure of the governing body is as follows:

Mrs Cath Smith	Co-opted gov Chair of governors
Mr Jon Halton	Co-opted gov Chair of committee
Mrs Jacs Houslander	Parent gov Chair of committee
Mr Mark Oakshott	Staff gov -Head teacher
Rev Karl Freeman	Foundation gov
Mr James Stevenson	Co-opted gov
Mrs Kath Moore	Co-opted gov
Mrs Juliet Morgan	Parent gov
Mr Lee Edwards-Smith	Parent gov
Mr Matt Sheather	Parent gov
Mrs Jackie Price	Staff gov
Mrs Di Werker	Associate gov
Mrs Jean Bell	Clerk to governors

We are in the process of recruiting a new Local Authority governor, and currently have a vacancy for an additional Foundation governor. More information about each of the governors can be found on the school website, as can other updates on everything happening in our school. Please check on:
www.compton-cofe-primary.org

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 a Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year,
The Governing Body