



Governor Newsletter

Autumn 2017

Dear Parents / Guardians

Welcome back to the new 2017/18 school year. My name is Angela Howarth and I have been a governor for 10 years. I have just taken over the role of Chair of Governors following the resignation of Sarah Fitzgerald, who has been a governor at Carlton Primary for over 14 years. I would like to say a big thank you to Sarah for all her hard work and dedication to the school over the years.

For those who don't know about the Governing body; we are a group of volunteers who have been voted onto the Governing Body to ensure high standards of achievement for all children at Carlton Primary School.

We meet 4 times a year as a "Full Governing Body" and then we have 2 committees who meet 3 times a year to discuss specific issues and make key decisions affecting the children and the school. These are the School Improvement Committee and the Resources Committee.

School Improvement Committee

This committee looks closely at external and internal test results and goes in-depth into reading, writing and maths in all the school's keystages. Safeguarding and Pupil Premium are also covered in this committee. Here is a brief summary of the work during 2016/7:-

The School Improvement (SI) sub-committee is focused on analysing test results from year end, externally (SATS) and internal results. However it doesn't just stop and start at year end results, the governors in SI committee constantly review results and assessments carried out in school over the academic year.

This year has been a particularly intense year, all governors were involved at the start of the school year analysing the SATS result for 2015/16. This led to the school being classed as "coasting" and the whole governing body was involved in compiling a letter to parents explaining what this meant and the steps that have been put in place to ensure every child continually improves whilst at Carlton Primary School.

The SI committee has thoroughly analysed and questioned the head and deputy head teachers about internal data monitoring of every child's progress.

Every governor has a subject responsibility and the SI committee has on its team, governors with responsibility for Numeracy, Literacy, Safeguarding, pupil premium and sport premium. All the governors make regular school visits to question the teachers and then report back their findings at the next meeting.

Although the SI committee only meets 3 times during the academic year all the members work hard with school visits, "meet and greet" at parent's evenings, questionnaires and meeting with subject leaders. The members of the SI committee would like to thank all the staff at Carlton School for their co-operation during this academic year.

Angela Howarth (Chair of the School Improvement)

Resources Committee

The Resources Committee covers all financial and staffing matters. Here is the summary from the chair of the Resources Committee on the work carried out during 2016/17:-

The Resources Committee is responsible for overseeing the financial management of the school. The key tasks include:

Responsible for setting and monitoring the school budget and human resources matters;

Overseeing the maintenance of the school buildings and all matters relating to health and safety;

Reviewing and agreeing policies;

Approving the School's Financial Value Standard;

Audit of the school fund; and

Overseeing contracts

Essentially the Committee ensures that the school's money is well spent.

This academic year the Committee has approved the purchase of three new touch screens for classrooms, the new reading scheme and a new contract with Leeds City Council for cleaning services.

Policies approved were: Health & Safety, Capability, Appraisal and Grievance.

Issues discussed/reviewed included: the new performance management system for teachers, new teaching assistant levels and commitment to continue funding cluster services now such funding comes directly to Carlton instead of being top-sliced.

The Committee wish to thank the School Business Manager for ensuring the budget for the financial year ending March 2017 was extremely well-managed and guaranteed that Carlton started the next financial year in a healthy position despite the current changes and difficulties in education funding.

Jenny Harrison (Chair of the Resources Committee)

During the school year, we asked all parents to take part in a questionnaire (the questions are recommended by OFSTED). This year we also carried out an additional questionnaire to the parents in the school's foundation unit. At the School Improvement meetings we have been monitoring the results and looking at the 3 main issues coming out of the questionnaire which were; homelearning, bullying/behaviour and information on "my child's progress". The governors continue to work with the school leadership team to monitor and progress these issues.

Finally I would just like to say that we are delighted as a Governing Body to congratulate the Head Teacher and all his staff at Carlton Primary on the very good SATs results in 2017, and due to these, I am pleased to tell you that we are no longer classified as a "coasting school".

For further information and details of all the governors, please visit the Governor pages on the Carlton Primary School website.

Thank you

The Carlton Primary School Governors