

Market Harborough C of E Primary School

Governor Newsletter



No. 1 November 2010

Welcome to the new Governor Newsletter. This first edition explains the roles and responsibilities of the Governing Body and introduces you to the school's Governors. It also contains news about some of the projects Governors have been involved in recently. You will receive a Governor Newsletter once a term and we hope you will find it informative and useful.

What does the Governing Body do?

Governors are volunteers who work with the Head Teacher, her staff and the Local Authority to help the school provide the best possible education for all children. Governors involve themselves in the life of the school through regular classroom visits and attendance at school performances, church services and other events. The Head Teacher, not the Governing Body, has responsibility for the day-to-day running of the school.

The Governing Body has 3 key roles:

1) The 'strategic' role

This involves planning for the future of the school, establishing its key aims and values and helping the school to determine priorities for improvement.

2) The 'critical friend' role

The Governing Body offers support, constructive advice and practical help where needed. Governors also challenge, ask questions, seek information and suggest improvements.

3) The 'accountability' role

The Governing Body holds the school to account for the standards it achieves in all areas of learning.

The Governing Body: who's who?

The school's Governing Body is made up of six different types of Governor:

- **Foundation Governors** (nominated by the Parochial Church Council and appointed by the Diocese)
- **LA Governors** (appointed by the Local Authority)
- **Parent Governors** (elected by parents and carers of pupils at the school)
- **Community Governors** (elected by the Governing Body)
- **Staff Governors** (elected by the school's staff)
- **The Head Teacher** (automatic membership)

Name of Governor	Type of Governor
Craig Bosworth	LA
Sue Bovill	Head Teacher
The Revd Richard Brand	Foundation
Ian Clarkson	Foundation
Sue Dove	Parent
Rachel Morley (Vice Chair)	Parent
Heidi Newman	Parent
Jane Snelling	Community
Richard Whitehouse	Community
Joan Williams (Chair)	Foundation

There are currently vacant positions for a Staff Governor and a Parent Governor. Elections will be held in January. **If you are interested in becoming a Parent Governor and would like to talk to a Governor about what this role involves, please enquire via the school office.**

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When does the Governing Body meet?

The Governing Body meets twice a term as a full committee. Governors also sit on smaller working groups and sub-committees, most of which meet at least once a term and which all report to the full Governing Body. A summary of the main roles and responsibilities of the sub-committees and working groups is given below, as are Governors' additional nominated roles.

- **Finance and Resources Committee:** Oversees the school budget and monitors spending
- **Gifted & Talented Working Group:** Monitors the school's provision for children identified as being gifted & talented
- **Health & Safety and Premises Committee:** Oversees the school's Health & Safety procedures as well as the maintenance and use of the school buildings
- **Pay Committee:** Reviews annually the salaries of teaching staff, in line with the school's Pay Policy
- **Performance Management Committee:** Assesses annually the Head Teacher's performance
- **SEN Working Group:** Monitors the school's provision for children with special educational needs
- **Teaching and Learning Working Group:** Monitors the school's overall attainment levels and considers ways to improve teaching and learning

Community Cohesion – Craig Bosworth

Literacy – Rachel Morley

Numeracy - to be confirmed

SEN – Joan Williams

Improving Schools Programme – Richard Whitehouse

Gifted & Talented – Sue Dove

Safeguarding – Joan Williams

Racist Incidents – to be confirmed

Governor Training – Rachel Morley

PTA Liaison – Rachel Morley

Governor news

Funding successes

Early in 2010, the Governing Body was awarded **£50,000** by the Market Harborough & The Bowdens Charity towards the cost of the school's Community Art Block, which opened last January. In the summer, Governors secured two further grants: **£3,000** from the Community Dividend Scheme run by the Midlands Co-operative Society to purchase one of the shade structures on the main playing field and **£873** from Leicestershire County Council towards the provision of cycle and scooter racks by the Hearth Street entrance to the school. Governors are grateful to the PTA for providing matched-funding for these two projects. They would not have gone ahead without the PTA's support.

KS2 Roald Dahl reading relay challenge and book review writing competition

In October, the Literacy Governor set KS2 children a challenge: could they read 3 Roald Dahl books by the last day of this term? So far, 111 children have signed up to take part. In January we will be launching a *Book Review Writing Competition* in school, based on the children's reading. We wish to thank the author Glyn Iliffe for agreeing to judge the competition.

School website

We are currently developing the Governor section of the school website so that it includes more information about the work of the Governing Body and its members. Governor Newsletters will also be available online. Go to www.marketharboroughcofe.co.uk and click on the 'Governors' tab.

Thank you

The Governing Body wishes to thank the outgoing Governors, Julie Guiver (Staff) and Antoinette Mohamed (Parent), for their hard work and commitment to the school during their terms of office.

How to contact us

If you have any ideas for how we can improve the Governor Newsletter, please let us know. To contact the Governing Body about this or any other matter, please write to: The Chair of the Governing Body, c/o The School Office, Market Harborough C of E Primary School, Fairfield Road, Market Harborough, Leicestershire, LE16 9QH.