



Governors' Newsletter

St Anne's CE Primary School



The governors at our most recent meeting:

Joyce Greaves, Lesley Steward, Fr Gordon Jeanes, Martin Baker, Jackie Nelson
Sharon Dickinson, Leila Farah, Pam Davies, Mark Faldo, David Harrison

not present: Sandra McGowan

What do Governors do?

The Governing Body has three main core functions:

- ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- holding executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the organisation and its pupils, and the performance management of staff;
- overseeing the financial performance of the organisation and making sure its money is well spent.

The full board of governors usually meet once each term. In addition committees meet to look in detail at matters under the teaching curriculum, the life of the school community, and the buildings, budget and personnel.



Congratulations to the school for collecting three Awards from the Council for our 2018 SATS results.

The Borough league tables which are published in the papers each November show the scores that children achieve in the test – referred to as *Attainment*. But even more important is the *Progress* that each child makes through their time in the school. In both we have done really well. In 2018 our reading Progress was the best of any school in the Borough, and our writing and maths close behind.

We have just heard our 2019 results – we cannot publish them until they have been finalised but they are absolutely brilliant.

Congratulations Elm Class!

What the Governors saw...

The Governors are there to hold the school to account for all aspects of its life and work. As part of this we make regular visits to see what is going on ...

Mark Faldo: I met Chloe Beard (head of geography) and she has a full and varied programme. I was most impressed and she likes to bring into the classroom all the 'in the news' subjects be they climate warming, earthquakes etc.

Sharon Dickinson: I met with Miss Morgan to look at the SEND provision in the school. It was really helpful to hear about the assessment process and how the school is supporting the children. I was very impressed with how closely children are monitored and with the same day interventions in place if children need them. I also made a couple of classroom visits and was able to see some of the things we discussed in action.

Fr Gordon: on the financial side I went to see how the Budget is set for the year. Of course staffing is the biggest item. I was impressed to see how Joyce the school business manager works with her colleagues in other schools, sharing good practice.

Leila Farah: Ms Baker in Olive Class shared that each child has monitoring in place to ensure that they are progressing, and their learning is analysed regularly to ensure that new ways are identified to stretch the children's learning.

Regularly through the year we have visits from a 'link inspector' from Wandsworth Borough. Julie Hillman assists the staff and reports to the Governors so we can rely on expert advice. Here is some of her report summary for this year:

St Anne's is a well-led school with drive and ambition for improvement.

The quality of teaching, learning and assessment

- Teaching is good, with much outstanding practice
- Assessment systems are effective and senior leaders moderate standards rigorously.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare

- Pupils behave extremely well and have positive attitudes to learning and to collaborating and supporting one another.
- Safeguarding is effective.

Outcomes

- Across all year groups pupils make consistently strong progress .
- KS1 to KS2 progress scores in all areas are well above national averages
- Early Years provision is improving rapidly – the average score increased by 2.2% and is now above local averages.
- Pupils are positively prepared for life in modern Britain. Fundamental British values are promoted and understood, supported by an explicit PSHE programme. Their spiritual, moral, social and cultural understanding is good.

Finance

You will probably have seen in the news that schools are facing real challenges financially as grants are reduced but costs still mount up. We too are facing those difficulties. Each year we have to set a budget for the school on the basis of the grant we receive from the Council, and this year has been the most difficult for a long time. We have worked hard to identify and preserve the elements which make St Anne's such a high-achieving school.



The renovated Early Years Block is the most recent part of our building plans, and a huge success. All improvement work in a church school building depends on us raising 10% of the cost ourselves – that's what your capitation fee goes to. At the moment many families have not paid their capitation, and then the money has to come out the budget for teaching!