



Whaplode (Church of England) Primary School  
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# GOVERNORS

16<sup>th</sup> December 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

As we approach the end of our Autumn term, I would like to thank pupils and staff for their hard work and dedication over the last few months. Our new starters have all settled in well and our journey to academise under Lincoln Anglican Academy Trust is well underway.

Since my last letter we have now welcomed another three governors onto our Governing Body; Miss Kirsteen Glenkyle, Mr Mark Lunn and Mrs Kim Davis. All three have come on board as Co-opted Governors and I am pleased to say that we now have a full Governing Body.

In this newsletter, as part of our plan to improve the visibility of our Governing Body, we have included a focus on our Vice-Chair of Governors, Mrs Ines Hooper:



*I am a retired primary school teacher, living in Whaplode with my husband of 34 years, Brian. I have 2 grown up daughters; Becky, who is married and expecting her first child and works for Cancer Research UK, and Lindsey who is an employment solicitor in Cambridge. Two of my hobbies are reading and singing. I sing in the local church choir and also a Spalding Ladies' choir, A Handful of Harmonies.*

*I have been on the Governing Body for 3 years, having been appointed by the church as a foundation governor. I am a 'buddy' governor to Year 5 and have been with this cohort since becoming a governor and have enjoyed watching them grow and develop through their school years. I visit the school most Friday mornings to hear them read and help with their learning. This is a great pleasure for me and the children are always eager to read.*

*I am keen to support the school in any way I can, and am pleased and proud to be part of such a strong team, dedicated to providing the very best learning environment and opportunities for our children.*



Also, as part of the plan to raise our profile, governors have held a coffee morning as well as attending parent's evenings, open mornings, unity in the community lunch, academisation meeting, harvest festival, Christmas lunch and the EYFS/KS1 performance to name but a few.

This term, governors have been busy monitoring different aspects of school; the governor page of the school website shows the areas monitored and by which governor. Governors act as 'critical friends' to our school giving support and challenge to our head teacher as we all strive towards becoming outstanding. From the monitoring this term, please find great snippets from the monitoring reports that I would like to share with you:



*"Although the assembly was about the Jewish religion, the Christian ethos of the school and its values was very much in evidence. I greatly enjoyed sharing this worship with the school."* Mrs I Hooper monitoring Collective Worship.

*"It was abundantly clear that the teachers knew their students extremely well as individuals. This included knowledge of any issues which may cause barriers to learning and current concerns."* Mrs Cook monitoring pupil progress meetings.

*"I was delighted to hear that the teaching is consistently observed as good or outstanding."* Mrs Roffe monitoring EYFS.

*"Behaviour in church was very good – it was lovely to see the church full, with members of the community and families also present to celebrate the Harvest Festival. It was wonderful to experience the contributions of all year groups."* Mrs Cook monitoring Harvest Festival

*"It was obvious that Mrs Flack takes safeguarding extremely seriously and has put in a great deal of work to ensure our children are kept safe and secure in all aspects of this."* Mrs I Hooper completing a safeguarding spot check.

Lastly, I would like to send my greetings for Christmas and the New Year and I hope that all the pupils and staff have a well earned break.

I look forward to seeing you all in 2017.

Yours sincerely

Mr Chris Mackman  
Chair of Governors

