

**Belbroughton CE Primary School Governor Newsletter**

Summer Term 2018

 **Who are the Governors?**

Parent Governors

Simon Benbow ( Chair)

Rachel Hansford ( Vice Chair)

Kerry Webb

Staff Governors

Clare Bishop

Steve Metters

Foundation Governors

Claire Pottinger

Glynn Ashman

Co- Opted Governors

Paul Fearns

Ian Hadley

Gary Booth

Local Authority Appointed Governor

Jon Taylor

**How to contact us**

If you have any suggestions or issues that you want to discuss with the Governing Body you can catch up with as at one of the Parent Forums or email us at

**Welcome to the first annual Governor Newsletter!**

The purpose of the newsletter is to inform parents and the wider Belbroughton community of what’s been happening at the school this year, and some of the planned activities for the next 12 months.

**Headlines**

It’s been a very busy year for the School and the Governing Body!

Much of the focus has been on ensuring that school staff and resources are organised to ensure that, despite the squeeze on school funding, every child can achieve their potential at Belbroughton School. We are confident that good progress continues to be made towards this target.

It’s pleasing to report that the increase in numbers of children has had the planned impact in terms of the school’s finances, although Government funding arrangements means that this will continue to be a challenging issue for our (and many other) schools.

We have installed new perimeter fencing to enhance the safeguarding of children whilst at the school, and also had the entrance to the Nursery refurbished.

We’ve also had a major focus on improving attendance and time-keeping this year, which we’re pleased to say is gradually starting to improve. Thank you to parents for their support on this very important issue.

**Year 2 and 6 SATs Results**

We are really pleased to report that preliminary data of the 2018 results shows that the percentage of pupils meeting the expected standard exceeds the national average for both groups. The Year 6 SATs results are particularly pleasing, with the percentage of pupils meeting standard increasing from 69% in 2017 to 79% this year.

*Please note that these results will not be finally validated until Autumn 2018 so may alter slightly but we thought we’d like to let you have the preliminary information as soon as it was available to us.*

**School Inspections**

belbroughtongovernors@gmail.com

There were no formal inspections of the school by Ofsted or the Church of England (known as SIAMs inspection) this year. We subsequently maintain our

**Governor Monitoring Visits**

In addition to termly Full Governing Body meetings, and those of the 3 subcommittees (Teaching & Learning, Finance and Premises), Governors also make regular monitoring visits to the school. Areas that these visits have covered this year include

* Safeguarding and Health & Safety
* Mathematics
* Literacy
* Enrichment
* SEN provision
* Pupil and Sports Premium

Further details of the Governing Body’s responsibilities and activities can be found on the school website <http://www.belbroughtonprimary.co.uk/our-school/governors/>

ratings from Ofsted as ‘Good’ and from SIAMs as ‘Outstanding’.

First Steps Nursery did have an Ofsted Inspection this year and they were once again rated as ‘Good’. Many Congratulations to Rachel Skidmore (Chair of Nursery), Nina Reid (Nursery Manager) and the rest of the First Steps team!

**Around School**

There have been many highlights this year and some of the most memorable include

* Year 6 visit from the Young Shakespeare Company
* The Christmas School plays – particularly the determination of the staff, pupils and parents to make sure the plays went ahead despite the heavy snow
* Pantomime came to Belbroughton in December with a production of Aladdin enjoyed by all the school
* Lots of fun in Science Enrichment week
* World Book day with ‘bedtime stories’ as this year’s theme
* The Easter Egg hunt through the school grounds was exceptionally popular!
* Sports Day, House Cross Country and House Cricket Competition
* The Class Assemblies in July have been great fun for both children and parents

**Out of School**

There have once again been many activities that our children have been involved in. Without exception, we always receive fantastic feedback on how polite and well behaved the children are. Just a selection of these activities are

* The local schools Cross Country event which we organised and hosted
* Competing in Chaddesley Corbett Tag Rugby competition
* Singing with 6000 other children at the Young Voices concert at the Genting Arena, Birmingham
* Year 3 and 4 residential trip to Manor Adventure in Shropshire – 3 days of activities including canoeing, abseiling, orienteering and problem solving
* Visit to the Shri Venkateswara Temple in Oldbury
* Visits to Lapworth Geology Museum and Warwick Castle
* Taking part in SING It at Winterfold School
* Year 6 residential week at Ingestre Hall
* Competing in the Bell Boating regatta where one of our crews won silver!

**Around the Community**

As a Church of England School, we are proud of our strong links with the Church in Belbroughton. We are thankful to be able to use the wonderful Church itself to celebrate to events such as the Harvest Festival, Christmas and Easter.

We were delighted that Year 4 were invited to visit the residents at Breach House care home in June, where they were able to sing some of the songs that they had been learning throughout the year.

**New Governors**

At the completion of his term of office as a Co-Opted Governor, Dom King is stepping down from the Governing Body. Dom has served on the Governing Body for over 7 years. He has made a major contribution to the Governance of the school, particularly in his position as Chair of the Finance Committee, where he has been instrumental in steering the school through some significant financial challenges.

Gary Booth is joining the Governing Body as Co-Opted Governor. Gary is currently director of Treasury for WM Housing Group and he is also responsible for governance within the company.

**PTA Update**

We are lucky at Belbroughton to have a fantastic PTA which, as well as raising funds, is also a significant part of our school’s ethos and community spirit.

Some of the events organised in the last 12 months have included

* Bonfire night
* Family Food Festival
* Summer Garden Party at the Horseshoes
* Quiz night
* Grounds Day when parents spend the day painting fences and tidying up the grounds. It was great to see Lloyds Bank help with the fence painting as part of their community engagement. Thank you!

The funds that have been raised have been spent on a number of incredibly important schemes in school such as

* Installation of interactive whiteboards in all classrooms
* Subsidising of school trips so that they are accessible to all children
* Purchasing book bags for all children joining the school in Reception and hoodies for all children leaving at the end of Year 6

The PTA is now looking to raise money to improve the school playground facilities, which would be an amazing addition to our school.

They already have planned for the Autumn term

* Bonfire and Firework display Friday November the 9th
* The Winter Party on Saturday November 24th

Further details on these and other events will be sent out by the PTA after the summer holidays.

As well as the parents and staff who help out with the PTA, we’d like to thank the broader Belbroughton community who support these events by attending them and allowing us to use their facilities.

**Plans for the Future**

Over the next 12 months, one of the key areas for the governing body will be developing the School Strategy. This will provide a 5 year plan for the school on how it should be organised and resources to continue to enhance the education it delivers to our children. We will of course discuss these plans with parents, staff and the broader community as they evolve.

We are also going to review procedures to see if any more can be done to alleviate the parking congestion at school drop-off and collection which is a challenge for our school (and virtually every other school in the country!).

We look forward to discussing this and other issues at next year’s Parent Forums.

**Thank you for your ongoing support and we hope you have an enjoyable summer break.**