



GOVERNOR NEWS

St Peter's CE Primary School, Easter 2018

Welcome to our new governors



Andrew Mawdsley



Jane Morris



Brian Kelly

This academic year has seen big changes within the governing body with four new governors joining the board: Jane Morris as Chair, Linda McPhee as a new foundation governor and Brian Kelly and Andrew Mawdsley as new parent governors.

Jane took over the reins from Andrea Morley last September as our new Chair of Governors. Jane has lived in Harrogate for over 27 years and has a wealth of experience in education having taught

around Oxfordshire and Yorkshire for 30 years. Jane has strong links to the local community as a longstanding member of the choir at St Peter's Church and has served as a local magistrate.

Jane is excited to be part of our school community and is looking forward to getting to know more people at school as well as helping St Peter's realise its full potential. You can meet Jane at the Easter Service on Thursday 29th March and contact her at morrij@ycway.uk.

A HUGE THANK YOU

The arrival of all these new faces follows the departure of Andrea Morley (Chair of Governors, Safeguarding and Health & Safety Governor, Chair of Teaching & Learning, Maths lead), Amy Treetops (Chair of Finance and SEN Governor), James Hawkins (Vice-Chair and Sports Lead) (until 1 April 2018), Rachel Silverwood (Chair of Inclusion) (until 1 April 2018), Deborah Parkman (English and Curriculum leads) and Andrew Kempston-Parkes whose terms of office ended recently.

We are hugely grateful for the commitment, time and energy Andrea, Amy, James, Rachel, Deborah and Andrew have dedicated to our school over the last few years.

During their time as governors, the board helped the school achieve an OFSTED "Good" rating in 2015 and join the YCST Academy Trust in 2016. The governors also secured thousands of pounds of funding for roof repairs and improvement works

to the top floor in 2016 and over £50,000 of funding for a new fire alarm system in 2017.

During Andrea's time as Chair, the governing board was completely restructured to enable the governors to monitor better school activities and respond to strategic goals. The board also worked with staff to improve Maths teaching and SEN support.

The governors are lucky to work with a dedicated and enthusiastic staff team who look for original and new ways to educate our children not only in the curriculum but also in other areas from debating to sports, digital leaders to family groups.

None of these achievements would have been possible without the joint efforts of staff and governors. Co-operation together with a shared vision and ethos are key ingredients in the continued success of our school.

PTO

Can you help St Peter's become even better?

The support and expertise of our governors is vital to enable St Peter's to realise its potential and we need another parent governor on the board. We would particularly welcome parents with skills or interests in the following areas: human resources, IT, estate management, special educational needs and safeguarding.

Why should I become a parent governor?

Being a governor at St Peter's will give you a real insight into how the school is run. The role involves supporting Mrs Collins and Miss Fishburn in managing and improving the school and requires regular attendance at formal meetings. Although becoming a governor is a big commitment, you can help make a real difference.

Governors work to support the overall development of the pupils and contribute to raising standards for all pupils. This involves providing a strategic view for the school, acting as a critical friend and ensuring accountability.

Look out for information about how you can put yourself forward for this role from the school soon.

WHAT NEXT FOR ST PETER'S?

The school is due another **OFSTED inspection** and the governors are working closely with the school to ensure this goes well and the results reflect the school's achievements and ambitions. **Your feedback is invaluable and the inspectors will consider parents' opinions of the school via the Parent View questionnaire (www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk) so please log-on and give your feedback.**

We are addressing the school's **heating issues** and are awaiting the outcome of a funding application to our Academy Trust, the Yorkshire Schools Causeway Trust (YCST) for money to upgrade the heating and windows at school. If successful, work will be carried out over the summer.

The governors are also working closely with the YCST to **maximise the opportunities of being part of an Academy Trust** to share knowledge, experiences and training resources. We hope there will be more opportunities in the future to create even more efficiencies (eg shared catering provision and estate management).

BACK TO BASICS

St Peter's is part of the Yorkshire Causeway Schools Trust. This is a multi-academy trust comprising St Aidan's, St Peter's, Pannal, Oatlands Infant, Richard Taylor, Hampsthwaite and North Rigton primary schools. The Trust is independent from local authority control and receives its funding directly from the government. While the YCST is responsible for some decision making at St Peter's, most responsibilities are delegated to the governors and the Senior Leadership Team.

What is a foundation governor? A governor appointed by the trustees of the YCST board to represent the founding body (the Diocese of Leeds).

What is a parent governor? A parent of a child in the school.

What is a co-opted governor? A governor who has been appointed by the board to bring specific skills to the governing body.

The Governing Body - who's who?

Foundation Governors: Jane Morris – *Chair of Governors, Chair of Inclusion, Safeguarding and SEN Governor*, Alan Garrow – *Vice Chair, Chair of Faith*, Linda McPhee – *Chair of Teaching & Learning*. **Parent Governors:** Olivia Thompson – *Health & Safety Governor*, James Hawkins – then Brian Kelly, Rachel Silverwood – then Andrew Mawdsley. **Co-opted Governors:** Anthony Barker – *Chair of Finance, Premises and Health & Safety*, Val Rodgers, Helena Fishburn. **Staff Governor:** Emily Crankshaw. **Head Teacher:** Julia Collins.