

06/12/2017

To: Parents/Carers

Welcome to this term's Governor update. The aim of these updates is to keep you informed of the main issues the Governors are considering this term.

As always, we have had several committee meetings since the beginning of the new school year in September. The teaching and learning committee met earlier in the term and decided on the focus of our monitoring visit. The decision was taken to focus on writing within school and in early October several governors visited school. This is a really beneficial activity as it gives governors an opportunity to see the school during a real school day. Governors visited several lessons and spoke to children about the activities they were doing. The activities are always very enjoyable and the children are always happy, polite and willing to talk about their learning.

During committee meetings we discuss the budget, policies and the children's attainment. We always appreciate the reports that we receive from staff and the opportunity to ask questions on a variety of topics. This helps us to gain a real insight into school and the challenges it faces.

The finance and pay committee have also met earlier in the term and discussed the financial situation the school is facing this academic year.

We like to keep up to date with training so Governors have attended a variety of courses since September, including an induction course for one of our new governors, a course on pupil premium funding and safeguarding training.

As part of the harvest celebration all the children attended a celebration service at St Leonards. I had the privilege of attending and the children were a credit to the school. They produced and presented some excellent poems, stories and songs. Each child also brought a contribution to the harvest collection which was donated to the food bank.

It is clearly a busy time of year at school at the moment as staff and children are preparing for the Christmas production. We look forward to seeing as many parents, grandparents and carers attending the productions over the next week. Our year 1 children are involved in an enterprise project and all the money raised from ticket sales for the production will go towards this project.

Before I close, we still have a vacancy for a Parent Governor on the Governing Body. If you feel that becoming a governor is something that would interest you please do not hesitate in getting in touch with the school office in the first instance.

After 26 years of working at Anston Park Infants School Mrs Bagshaw left in October. On behalf of the all the governors I would like to thanks Mrs Bagshaw for her years of service to the school and wish her all the best in her new job.

I'd like to close with some seasonal thank yous. Our strong educational attainment results last year came from hard work, not just from the children but by our staff and our leadership team as they make sure that every one of our children does as well as they can; our thanks to all the staff who worked so hard during the year.

Thanks, too, to all our parents. Parents' support for a school and for their own children makes a real difference to the success of a school. Your interest in your children's education, makes a genuine and lasting difference to the school. Thank you all for all of your support for the children and for the school over the year. We look forward to another success year at Anston Park Infants School.

Finally, I wish you all a joyful Christmas and a happy New Year,

Cathy Moutry

Chair of Governors.