



St. Nicholas' Primary School

Governor Newsletter

Spring and Summer 2018

OFSTED INSPECTION

Ofsted visited St. Nick's on 24th and 25th April and rated the school as 'Good'. Governors would like to thank all the children for representing the values of St. Nick's so brilliantly, all the staff for working tremendously hard to prove what a great school St. Nick's is and to parents for taking the time to fill in the parent questionnaire and talk to the Inspectors. We were delighted and very proud of the positive report which reflects the School really well. A huge congratulations to all involved. The full report can be found here: <http://www.stnicholasprimaryschool.org.uk/ofstedreporting/index.php>

GOVERNOR NEWS

Sadly we have said goodbye to governors Bruce Ross-Smith and Mark Longford this year, and Sue Townsend has moved from being a full governor to an associate governor. A huge thank you to Bruce, Mark and Sue for all your hard work over the years. To mark his departure, Bruce has written a seasonal sonnet for St. Nick's which is at the end of this newsletter! Meanwhile, we have welcomed Billy Garnett as a co-opted governor. Governors meet termly for full governing body meetings as well as for sub-committees which focus on Learning, Finance & Resources and Community & Vision. Each Governor also has a link to a particular part of the School Development Plan, which can be found on the school website. Reports of

Governor visits to the school can be found in a folder in reception.

SWAN SCHOOL

Swan school plans have been submitted to the Council planning committee for consideration. Thank you to all parents who contributed their views via the Council planning site as well as via planning meetings that were held earlier in the year. If planning permission is granted, we will continue to work to make sure that the disruption to St. Nick's is as minimal as possible for our children.

PARENTAL AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

This year as ever has seen fantastic levels of parental and community involvement with St. Nick's. This has included the brilliant International Evening at the start of the year, Book at Bedtime, Stay and Learn sessions, supporting children at Sports Days and all the excellent events organised by FOSNS such as the Disco and Summer Fete. There is also an army of volunteers who come into school to run after-school clubs, read with children, contribute during science week, share their culture or expertise, help out on Groundforce Day, run the library, refurbish the Reading Bus, etc. While not quite on school grounds, one of the most exciting initiatives in recent weeks has been the opportunity for the children to help decorate the walls leading to the subway next to school. It looks amazing and it's wonderful that their

vibrant artwork is immortalised and celebrated for the whole community to see. Governors would like to thank all staff, parents and other volunteers who give up spare time to make sure these hugely important events and activities can happen.

Finally, we wish everyone a happy, safe and relaxing summer. For Year 6 pupils and others

moving onto new schools the Governors would like to wish you all the very best for the future. For everyone else, we look forward to seeing you back at St. Nick's in September!

The driest of summers
(a sonnet for St Nick's)

In this the driest of summers the deer
on the Marston water meadows
standby, ready for fleeting runs
from shade to shade while the children
seem to be dancing quadrilles on their way
into school, chatter their music in these
last days of term, dramatically determined
in pursuit of good living, learning, as John Dewey,
had it, being life itself. Teachers, TAs, all staff, know this
better than anyone, symphonic in their understanding
of the rhythms of rivers, current and counter-current
even in this the driest of times, when every moment
counts, making the most of each voice in the stream
of the present, making the most in this season of hope.

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(BRS, 23.vii.2018)