



### HEADTEACHER APPOINTMENT

As you'll be aware, Mrs Holland has been appointed as the new Headteacher of St. Nicholas' School. The appointment panel, comprising Governors and representation from the Local Authority, were very impressed with Mrs Holland's application and performance at interview and it is clear that St. Nick's is in good hands. We are very excited about the future of the School under her leadership.

### GOVERNOR NEWS

The current Governing Body comprises:



Shilpa Bhatt  
(Chair)



Robert Fletcher  
(Vice-Chair & Parent)



Lynn Banerji  
(Co-opted)



John Batey  
(Community)



Skye Denno  
(Community)



Emily Flashman  
(Parent)



Billy Garnett  
(Co-opted)



Aisling Hill  
(Staff)



Carol Kelsey  
(Co-opted)



Karen Williams  
(Parent)

We are very sad to be losing Carol Kelsey as a member of the Governing Body at the end of this term. We'd like to thank her for all her work over her 13 years with the Governors and wish her well as she moves on to her new role at the Oxford Academy. We will be looking to appoint 2 new co-opted governors in the near future and will keep you posted. If you have friends or colleagues who are interested in school governorship, particularly those who have links

within the local community, please ask them to get in touch with Shilpa Bhatt via the School Office (further details of the skill sets we are looking for will follow).

### REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

(Full minutes from all Committee meetings are available upon request.)

Learning Committee (Chair: Carol Kelsey) has been using collated pupil attainment data from across the school to monitor pupil progress and ensure that all children are receiving the appropriate support. We also attended a Curriculum meeting in February with teachers to hear updates on action plans for all subject areas. Subjects were grouped into 4 areas to align with the School Development Plan and motto: Global, Arts and Sports, Communication and STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths)). It was a great opportunity for Governors to be involved in this event as it allowed us to get a good overview of teachers' plans in all areas. Governors very much enjoyed and appreciated getting an in-depth understanding of plans in their link areas as well as an overview across the whole curriculum. At the end of the event, one Governor fed back that 'it was very impressive to see how hard staff are working and the friendly and collegiate atmosphere'.

Resources and Premises Committee (Co-Chairs: Robert Fletcher and Karen Williams) have monitored the overall school finances, which are currently within budget although close monitoring and careful management is required over the next couple of years to ensure this remains the case. We also ensure appropriate spending of Pupil Premium and Sports Premium funding; impact reports and plans for 2018-2019 spending can be found on the school website.

To increase space and allow more children, there are plans for Bluebells Nursery class to move across to the room that is currently Daisy classroom. Activities that currently take place in Daisy classroom will move to the EYFS building, while After School and Breakfast clubs will use rooms in the CIRB plus the main hall. A re-fit of Daisy classroom and the CIRB is planned for Easter with Government's 'Little Extras' grant.

Community and Vision Committee (Chair: Lynn Banerji) have been keeping the website and prospectus up-to-date, as well as discussing plans to re-establish the Global group, which focusses on inclusivity, equality and international accreditation. They have also been hearing about the ongoing hard work of FOSNS, who are gearing up to the School Disco and Summer Fete, as well as a Travel Action Group run by local parents. The loss of land as a result of the Swan School development means a new area for Forest School to take place will need to be found, but options are currently being explored. Meanwhile, despite having lost Mrs Kelsey, Mrs Banerji will continue to run Gardening Club, which now looks fabulous after fantastic efforts from all who came to Groundforce Day! Members of this Committee will also be running a parent survey next term.

## SWAN SCHOOL

Development of the Swan School has started, commencing with access routes to the site, most visibly cutting across St. Nicks' playing field. The developers have been liaising with the School to ensure that the site is safe for St. Nick's children; there are good lines of communication to ensure any problems are quickly resolved. On the positive side, large amounts of woodchip and topsoil have been donated by the developers to St. Nick's which have helped transform the class gardening beds and other areas around the school! Updates on the development can be found at <https://marstonschools.com/>.

## GOVERNOR VISITS

John Batey visited Year 6 to observe maths teaching this term and wrote the following report:

*"I was very impressed by the children's attention and involvement during the lessons. They were given several questions on algebra, time, ratio, perimeter, scale etc. and used their previous learning to answer these by way of the 'four rules' of arithmetic. They showed adaptability in switching from subject to subject quite easily.*

*These presentations were teacher-produced and both teachers have a good relationship, working hard to match their work for the streamed classes.*

*The children's books looked well kept and tidy, showing pride in their work. The 6th years are a credit to the school!"*

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

Governors have enjoyed attending many of the school and community events that have taken place this term. These have included the World Book Day assembly, Pastries with Parents, Science week, P4C Stay and Learn and Groundforce Day:



## HAPPY EASTER

Finally, Governors would like to wish everyone a happy spring break and look forward to seeing you next term!

*Live, Love, Learn and be Happy*