

Selsted Governor Newsletter – Autumn 2018



Firstly, a warm welcome to all of the new parents and children – thank you for choosing Selsted CE Primary. We look forward to you being part of the Selsted family.

For those that are new, please let me introduce myself – my name is Jen Ibbetson-Revell and I am the Chair of the Governing Board for the school. I wanted to take the opportunity to tell you a little bit about the Board and what we do.

The Governing Board of the school is made up of the Headteacher, a staff representative, 2 foundation governors to represent the Diocese, 3 Co-opted governors from the community, one governor appointed by the Local Education Authority and 2 parent governors. Each governor should bring a set of useful skills or relevant experience with them. Currently, the Governing Board consists of;

Mrs A Woodgate - Headteacher

Mr R Flack – Asst Headteacher – Staff Governor

Mr P Sharman – Foundation Governor

Mrs J Butcher-Weisner – Foundation Governor

Mrs J Ibbetson-Revell – Co-opted Governor and Chair

Mrs B Shaw – Co-opted Governor and Vice Chair

Mrs J Brown – Co-opted Governor

Mrs S Burwell – Local Authority Governor

Mrs N Povey – Parent Governor

Mrs S Wilson – Parent Governor

Between us we have expertise in HR, leadership, education, finance, safeguarding, links with the local community and churches, online safety and collective worship.

Our role is to work with the school leaders and staff:

- To be accountable for the performance of the school to parents and the wider community
- To help to plan the school's future direction
- To select the head teacher when necessary
- To make sure the school is financially well managed
- To make sure the agreed Curriculum is well taught
- To decide how the school can encourage pupils' spiritual, moral and cultural development
- To make sure the school provides for all pupils including those with special needs.

To do this we meet at least twice termly (sometimes more) as a whole or in teams, to discuss and plan how we can do this most effectively. It is a rewarding role to have and we all feel passionately about offering the best for both our children and our adults. If you would like to know more, please don't hesitate to send me a message via the school office.

School Results

As some of you will be aware, schools are measured on results. Whatever your feelings on the appropriateness of this as a measure, it is still the main area that a school is judged on.

At Selsted we all (staff and Governors) believe that our role is to develop and nurture the whole child and part of that is about providing a well rounded education that includes appropriate challenge and stimulation.

Our focus for the past few years has been making sure that we offer excellent, Quality First teaching as we believe that if you get this right then results follow naturally.

I am pleased to say that this philosophy has paid dividends with last year's Year 6 achieving really fantastic results with 93% of children achieving the expected level of achievement in Reading, Writing and Maths. 29% achieved Greater Depth in these areas.

To put this into context, based on last year's league tables, this would mean that Selsted would be in the top 1% of schools nationally!

We are waiting for this year's league tables to be published and will let you know how we measure up. It is just one facet of what the school does but definitely one to celebrate!

Are Governors like the PTA?

The simple answer is no. Governors sit as a strategic leadership body whilst our Parent Teacher Association (FOSS) do marvellous work raising money so that we can keep the minibuses running, provide necessary funding for important things, such as our school field, and make sure that the children get treats, such as a visit from Father Christmas.

Although Governors aren't tasked with doing this, we do get involved in manning stalls, baking cakes and other fundraising because we believe that we are all in it together.

FOSS always needs new members as many hands make light work. Please join them and us, every little helps!