

## **Governor Newsletter – July 2016**

As we come to the end of the school year it is perhaps a good time to reflect on the year which has gone before us, a year which has been a busy one for school and governors alike.

Much of the year, especially the Spring and Summer terms, were affected by the introduction of the new SATS testing requirements and the new ways in which schools had to develop their own assessments systems.

Through the school development plan governors worked with the Head Teacher to develop action plans to ensure areas of learning and ways of teaching were targeted to ensure continued improvement in levels of achievement for all children across the school. Governors are conscious that our vision is to ensure that we are a caring Christian community achieving full potential for all. Many governors were therefore involved in monitoring aspects of the plan and in discussing its impact and introduction with members of the school's Senior Leadership team to ensure every child had the chance and could achieve their full potential.

In a year when the SATs tests were generally regarded as being difficult, the school, thanks to the efforts of all staff involved, performed extremely well, with our attainment levels being much above those achieved nationally. We hope that as our Year 6 children leave to begin a new chapter in their education in September that St Johns has prepared them fully for what lies ahead of them. We wish them well for their future and thank them for their contribution to the life of St John's during their time here.

Since Easter Mrs Stray has deputised as Head Teacher and been responsible for the continued good running of the school. Our sincere thanks go to her for carrying out this role so effectively.

In terms of changes affecting the Governing Body, several governors have had to step down from their role or their term of service has come to an end. We have therefore had to say farewell to Wendy Smith, Frances Haunch, the Rev David Curran as well as Donna Hall and Helen Slinger. All these Governors have contributed significantly to the work of the Governing Body and the life of the school and our grateful thanks is extended to all of them. A new parent governor Rebecca Norma has been appointed along with a new Local Authority governor, Claire Rimmer and in September two new foundation governors, Chris Crane and Hilary Hand, will commence their roles. In September the new vicar of St John's church, Steve Simcox, will have been licenced and we anticipate him joining the governing body as well at that time. We wish all the new and soon to be governors well and look forward to their contributions in the governance of the school.

Finally I would like to wish all the children at the school, parents, carers and families and all the staff a very safe, enjoyable time during the summer holidays.

Michael Moriaty

Chair of Governors