



# Governor Newsletter

March 23, 2018

Volume 3

By Joanna Grant – Parent Governor

**“Governors spoken to are enthusiastic and committed. They want to do their best for the school and to improve their own effectiveness.”**

**Governor elections:** we are pleased to announce that Petra Wagstaff has been appointed as a parent governor.

## What's in this newsletter

- What's happened since Ofsted?
- What have I been up to?
- How you can be involved?

## What have I been up to?

I am reading and writing link governor. So I have been working with Miss Thurstance to understand how well The Write Stuff has been implemented at Cold Harbour; where it is working well, where there are specific challenges and what is being done to address them. I have met with Miss Brago to discuss the implementation of the Scholastic reading scheme. I am due a return visit to look at the impact that has had on reading. In addition the Governors continuously monitor the overall progress made by children in school. I also regularly attend school events like worship, governors' tea party, services and performances.

**“As Ofsted reported, governors are beginning to ask challenging questions. The clerk confirmed an improving picture as governors gain confidence and knowledge of the school.”**

## What's happened since Ofsted?

It feels like a long time since Ofsted came in and maybe you feel that you haven't been told much about what happens next. However, please be assured that the school had already started a journey for improvement before Ofsted came in and are continuing to make things better, to improve outcomes for all our children. Specific actions that are happening now:

- **School Development Plan - Ongoing**
  - The school continues to work on areas identified in the School Development Plan; a working document which continuously monitors areas for improvement.
  - Governors review this document at meetings to confirm that progress is being made.
- **Targeted Improvement Board – November, March, Next meeting May**
  - This group is made up of Milton Keynes Council, the Diocese, A school improvement partner, Senior Leaders from the school, Chair of Governors
  - The group meets once a term to discuss improvements that need to be made and then to monitor progress on the implementation of the actions.
- **External Review of Governance – March**
  - An NLG (National Leaders of Governance) attended the school to examine how all areas of governance work and to recommend areas for improvement.
  - The NLG met with the School Leadership team, the Governors, Teachers and non-teaching staff, and pupils.
  - The report has shown that whilst many on the board are quite new they are working hard to develop specific skills to become more effective. The board would also benefit from ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction.
- **Staff Recruitment - Ongoing**
  - This is not as a direct result of Ofsted; however, we would like new staff to help to deliver school improvements.
  - Governors are responsible for recruiting a new deputy headteacher. We have been working with the Local Authority experts to ensure our recruitment process brings about the best results for the school. They are helping us to create the advert, design and run the interviews, and will provide advice where needed.

## How you can be involved

You might wonder how you can help to improve the school.

- **Provide input** to policy changes. For example the behaviour policy is currently being revised. Parents were invited into school to give feedback. If you are unable to come into school, please email the school with your comments.
- **Embrace any changes** that your children bring home to you and encourage your children to do the same. For example, they might have to layout work differently in a book.
- **Support the teachers and staff** – please show respect to teachers in front of your children. If you have any issues resolve them in the appropriate manner.