

## TIG Federation Governor Spring 2017 Newsletter

Welcome to the Spring edition of the Governors' Newsletter. Yet again it has been another busy term with Governors settling into the new Federation structure and working across both schools.

### **Update on Governor vacancies**

We have recently appointed a Local Authority (LA) Governor, John Davies. Below is some information about John:

*My wife and I moved to North Yorkshire in October last year from Leicestershire and are enjoying our new life in Yorkshire.*

*After graduating from University in Nottingham my first job was as a Production Planner for a company that made toy typewriters. After other jobs in manufacturing I moved initially into Further Education and later into Community Education.*

*I am a qualified teacher but have never taught in schools although I have taught people from 14 to 80 and from all academic abilities from basic literacy and numeracy to post graduate level. I believe strongly in the value of education and will always support different education opportunities at different stages of life.*

*I was, for a while, employed at a residential college for adults with disabilities and from that experience I am committed to ensuring every learner, whatever their age, is provided with the right level of support for them to succeed. I want to see all our pupils do as well as they can through equality of opportunity.*

*I was a Governor at a local primary school in Leicestershire with just over 100 pupils and understand the key issues involved at this level.*

*I look forward to helping develop and support all involved in the schools and meeting you in the future.*

### **Governor Vacancies**

We still have vacancies for 3 Co-opted Governors. Co-opted Governors are appointed by the governing body based on having the right skills to contribute to effective governance. We have written to local businesses asking for volunteers and we have also sent out a letter to parents/carers. The skills/knowledge gaps are detailed in this letter. Please give some time to read this and have a think about whether you can offer up your time to become a Co-opted Governor and influence the future of our schools.

### **Governance Health check**

On 14<sup>th</sup> March the Governance Support Unit met with myself and Mrs Mellor to review the effectiveness of the Governors. We are pleased to report that this was a positive review and we are carrying out our duties effectively.

### **School Websites**

We are currently in discussions with a new website designer so we can update both websites. In the past, the two school websites have been maintained by parents (Gary Atkins at Staveley and Robin Gordon at Kirk Hammerton) and we are so grateful for all the work they put into these websites. However, as we are now federated we need our websites to reflect this and teachers

want to be able to update the websites regularly. We are hoping that the new websites will be launched by the end of the summer term, if not before. We will of course keep you updated on progress.

### **School Development Plan (SDP)**

Mrs Mellor has been working very hard on the joint school development plan and now complete, it is a working document across both schools. Subject Leaders each have their own subject plan that feeds into the SDP.

### **Update on Monitoring activities**

There is a monitoring timetable in place for both schools. This is a week by week plan that details all monitoring activities to be undertaken by the Headteacher, teachers and Governors.

Currently Governors are linked to classes at both schools for monitoring purposes. They are as follows:

Class 1 – Joanne Lamb (EYFS)

Class 2 – Leanne Eaton (Y1 & Y2)

Class 3 at Kirk – Mark Holt (Y3 – Y6)

Class 3 at Staveley – Paul Spurgeon (Y3 & Y4)

Class 4 at Staveley – Mark Holt (Y5 & Y6)

Every half term the Link Governors visit each class with a specific remit and will then report their findings back to Governors. The main purpose of these visits are so Governors understand and can identify where children are progressing and be able to challenge if/where they are not.

### **SIAMS inspection**

As a Church of England School, Kirk Hammerton must undergo a Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS). Kirk Hammerton was last inspected in April 2012 where we were awarded a 'Good.' SIAMS inspections occur every 5 years, so we are due one this year. Mrs Mellor and the staff have been working extremely hard to ensure we maintain the 'Good' judgement.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the speed of change since September and thank Mrs Mellor and her team for their dedication and hard work. Through Governor meetings and visits we are made aware of the progress that is being made and we are sure all parents will notice the improvements that are being made too.

If you need to contact me for anything relating to the Governing Body, please email me on: [cofg@kirkhammerton.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:cofg@kirkhammerton.n-yorks.sch.uk)

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a lovely Easter break.

**Leanne Eaton**  
**Chair of Governors**