



## Governor Spotlight February 2019

On the 31<sup>st</sup> January, we held the first Full Governing Body (FGB) meeting of 2019. A jam-packed session covered all of the usual subcommittee updates as well as welcoming two new governors to the team in Catherine Donovan and Natasha Carter. Several key topics were discussed in more detail, an update of which can be found below.

### Teaching Assistant Support

We are aware that due to recent changes in staffing for the teaching assistants, a few parents have asked for clarity on the TA support timetable. Here is an overview.

The TA timetable is regularly reviewed to ensure it meets the needs of the children in each class. Each class receives a range of TA support over the week and TAs continue to work across the school. We are very fortunate in that our TAs are adept at supporting all age groups.

Intervention sessions, delivered by Mrs Wilson and Mrs Beresford, including Sound Discovery, Gingerbears and Priority Readers are now held on a Wednesday, which frees up some class TA support time and allows TAs to remain in the classroom supporting children as needed.

ELSA (emotional literacy support) and Speech and Language support interventions have been running successfully since September 2018 and these will continue. Mrs Beresford and Mrs Wilson have both undertaken specific training to run these interventions. Mrs Kelsey, in her role as SENDCo, also supports a group of children in class and through intervention groups. Mrs Pitts continues to work with intervention groups across the school during Mondays to Thursdays.

Parent and volunteer helpers continue to provide much valued reading support throughout the school. **Please do contact the office if you would be interested in helping in this way.**

### School Progress Report

The school have been working hard to improve KS1-2 progress outcomes and our current in-school data shows that the majority of our children are making expected progress, or better, in reading, writing and maths across Key Stage 2. We regularly monitor the progress of all children, both in terms of the progress they make within an academic year and across a key stage. Additional support is put in place where expected progress is not being made. As part of our work on this, key subject leaders are working together with all teachers to provide support and monitoring in these key areas of reading, writing and maths.

### SIAMS

The School has an upcoming SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) inspection that we are busy preparing for. This inspection focuses on the impact of the school's Christian vision on pupils and adults. As part of this, staff and governors have been busy attending various courses, meetings and training sessions to better understand the framework and how we will be judged.

A key component of this is a modified school vision that is currently being embedded throughout the school. We have built on our school motto of 'Strive, Believe, Succeed' to ensure that our vision of us successfully working together as a school community is clear.

Our new, extended school vision is '***Together as one family, we strive for faith, love and peace, believe in the values of God and succeed with grace***'. We feel that this new vision encompasses the way in which we all work together to achieve the best for our children, whilst doing so with humility.



### **Academisation Update**

The Academisation process continues with our proposal to join DBAT being discussed by the DfE at the next regional head teacher board meeting at the end of March.

Once the DfE approve of our proposal, a formal consultation process will take place where all parents, staff and members of the local community will have the opportunity to help the governors' make the right decision as to whether to join DBAT.

The Conversion Working Party has a meeting planned for Thursday 28 February where we will plan dates of the formal consultation process.

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### **New Governor Profile**

#### **Natasha Carter**



I joined the Governors at the end of last year and have really enjoyed learning about the structure of the Governing body and gained a real appreciation of just how much goes into running a school.

I have two children at Sutton Benger School and although I've joined as a Foundation Governor, being in the school playground every morning and afternoon I feel I'm equally well placed to represent the Parents' point of view. My background is in Science/Engineering and Marketing/Project Management so hope to offer a broad range of skills and hopefully a fresh perspective to the team.

My goal is to primarily support the school's leadership. I am however also keen to look at how we currently communicate with parents and see if there's a way in which we can make it more effective. I'd also like to look at the after-school activities/clubs we currently offer, so if you have any suggestions/recommendations please feel free to come and speak to me in the playground.

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### **Dates for the diary**

The next FGB meeting is on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March. If you have any questions or wanted a particular item addressed at the meeting, please do let us know on the emails below.

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For more information about what the governors at Sutton Benger Primary School do, to find meeting agendas and minutes, and to explore who the Governors are, please visit the school website: [www.suttonbenger.org](http://www.suttonbenger.org)

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