

**Head Teacher**

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**Governing Body Newsletter**

**Autumn Term 2016**

Dear Parents/Carers

I would like to welcome you and introduce myself, as the newly appointed chair, and my fellow governors of the school.

Currently our governing body consists of Andrew Russell (Headteacher), Suzanne Broome (Myself), John Benson, Karen Donoghue, Joanne Mc Keating, Michaela Mounfield, Joanne Smith and Gillian Volans. We would also like to welcome our newly appointed governor to the team, Richard McCart.

We currently have vacancies for 1 local authority governor, 1 parent governor and 2 co-opted governors.

For further information about our school’s governance please look at our website on <http://www.northduffield.n-yorks.sch.uk/school-information/governors>

As governors we are there to help with the strategic planning of the school, leaving the responsibility of the day to day running to Mr Russell and his staff team, who produced outstanding measured outcomes last year throughout the school, attaining higher than expected levels both locally and nationally. That’s not to say that you will not see us around school. Being a governor is to be an active member, holding the Headteacher and staff to account by asking challenging, well-focused questions and by participating in various sub committees and governor activities around school. These include, but are not limited to, learning walks around the school, participation at parent’s evenings, carrying out parent/child surveys and generally being a welcome face of the school for parents, staff and children.

Our school mission to you, as parents, is to keep you as informed as you can be on the things happening strategically in school. Many of the items we are involved with are confidential as you can imagine, but please feel assured that we will tell you what we can, when we can.

If you wish to make any comments, praises or suggestions for the school then please do not hesitate to either speak to a staff member or email admin@northduffield.n-yorks.sch.uk. Alternatively, you can contact myself on the email below.

If you have any concerns, we ask that you firstly speak to your child’s class teacher and if you do not feel that this resolves the matter satisfactorily, then speak to Mr Russell as Headteacher. If you then feel that you wish to take things further you can email myself on the email below.

We have had a busy start to the school year with our AGM being held in September and are at the moment organising visits and meetings in school. We have had some positive comments from some of the parents regarding the KS1 harvest festival and from some parents of Year 6 who had a camp out in the school grounds a couple of weeks ago. We wish to personally thank the adults involved in the camp out, especially Mrs Duffy and Mrs Fildes for organising the night and the children for being very well behaved and representing our school admirably. Friends of School are busy organising events for the children to raise extra funds for the school and we would like to thank them for their time and commitment to this very appreciated, worthwhile cause. Also keep an eye out for our new look school website which is to be launched in the next few weeks. It is more user, tablet and mobile friendly and looks amazing.

Finally, the governors would like to offer our personal thanks and best wishes to Juliet Fildes, Chris Smith and Mike Ward who all stepped down as governors at our AGM. Mike was a part of the school for a long time and we wish him all the best for the future and especially thank him for the time, commitment, help, leadership and passion he has given to the school.

Here is to a positive and enjoyable school year!

Kind regards

Suzanne Broome

Chair of Governors

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