

Governors' Newsletter

YOULGRAVE ALL SAINTS' CE (VA) PRIMARY SCHOOL

Greetings from the School Governing Body!

Dear Parents, Guardians and Carers,

I hope this edition of the Governors' Newsletter finds you well and looking forward to a half term break - it's already mid February - where did January go?

At the beginning of term, school welcomed Miss Zoe Hemmingway as our new Class 3 teacher. Miss Hemmingway is settling in well and beginning to get into her stride as she accustoms herself to the rhythm of the school and gets to know the class a little better; she is off to a great start!

School has been busy on a number of fronts as you would expect; and emotional and social health has been a focus area this half term. Two members of staff have been for training in Positive Play and have accessed resources out at Clay Cross. The Positive Play support programme is an early intervention programme designed to raise self-esteem and develop strategies for emotional wellbeing.

The layout of the classroom for Reception and Class 1 has been enhanced to create a more interactive environment and to create opportunities for more child-led learning. Some Paediatrics first-aiders have been trained and additional training in safeguarding is being undertaken to ensure it remains at the forefront of school operations. We have also invested in a new safeguarding platform – to enable wider, safe exchange of information with local schools and agencies, this is standard practice.

The school council has been re-established and is working on several projects with the school team, including the re-design and decoration of the children's toilets and re-naming the classes! Visitors have been welcomed back into the school and parents of Class 3 have been invited into school for an open evening and student performances - the staff team will be doing more of this in the term ahead.

The Governors have re-established the Curriculum, Teaching and Learning Committee. This is an Ofsted requirement - historically the activities of this committee were managed through the regular actions of the governors but now it has its own focus group. The Curriculum, Teaching and Learning Committee monitors achievement and the quality of teaching, ensuring the school provides a high-quality learning experience and delivers a broad and balanced curriculum in keeping with the school's aims, the school's Christian



We CARE

Welcoming Community
Achievement Respect
Encouragement

Emotional and Social Wellbeing

Changes and enhancements to support student welfare

Vacancy

Have you got the time and the skills we are looking for? Join us and make a difference!

distinctiveness and values, the needs of all pupils and its legal requirements. More on this in future Newsletters.

Mrs Barker has been working hard with the Local Education Authority on a number of core areas to drive the school forward. Today the school will be responding to the parent questionnaire that so many of you recently completed. I appreciate that it takes time and effort to complete such questionnaires but the information and feedback that you provided is immensely valuable and will heavily influence key items as we progress. Many, many thanks - it's a great way for the school to get quality information and take action.

Many of you have kindly asked after Mrs Stelling. Mrs Stelling continues to take a leave of absence and as soon as we are able to share any additional information we will do so immediately.

On behalf of the governors, I wish you a restful break.

Kind Regards
Mark Shearing

Acting Chair of Governors