



Term: Spring Date: March 25, 2018

## UPDATE FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Amberley Families,

Welcome to the first newsletter of the Governing Board. I hope this gives you a flavour of the work we have been doing since September and provides an opportunity to get to know the different governors through the governor's profile. The next newsletter will be in the Summer term and two other governors will be in profile. Please get in touch if there's anything you would like to see included in the next newsletter.

It has been a very busy start for me, visiting school, meeting with Miss Cale and familiarising myself with the role of Chair. Last term I completed my training on 'The Role of the Chair' and have been to a Governors' meeting at Avening Primary School as part of an initiative to share good practice. We look forward to welcoming their Chair of Governors to one of our meetings next term.

As part of the monitoring role I have visited Dexter class and enjoyed following a map around the outdoor area, drawn by one of the Dexter children! I have had my termly meeting with the Special Needs Coordinator, in my role as Special Needs Governor and carried out children's questionnaire's on their views of SEND at Amberley to ensure we are offering inclusive opportunities. This role also includes making sure the Policy is up to date and generally ensuring that provision for children with SEND at Amberley is the best it can be. It's also the role that I most enjoy!

Finally I'd like to thank the PTA for all their hard work for hosting another wonderful tree decorating party back in December and the on going fund-raising with hot chocolates and the cinema night. I know that Easter is a busy time for the PTA with the lead up to the Cow Hunt, so please support them if you can. I would like to wish you, the children and all your families a happy Easter on behalf of the Governors and myself.

Best wishes,

Clare Atherton

Chair of Governors

# GOVERNOR PROFILE'S

## Sarah Holden

### Staff Governor



As many of you already know, I teach Year 1 and 2 in Hereford Class. I am Head of Key Stage One, English and DT lead as well as being the staff governor for the Performance and Standards Committee.

As part of the Performance and Standards Committee, I am involved in decisions around the curriculum in order to give many opportunities for the children of Amberley to thrive.

I am responsible for the standards in the above curriculum areas as well as the attainment and progress of children at the end of Key Stage One (Year 2) as well as the phonics screening in Year 1.

I have taught both Key Stage One and Key Stage Two and therefore have a solid understanding of the expectations of children in each year group. This allows me to evaluate teaching, assessment and progress within each class and as part of the monitoring role, I visit all classes, to observe the teaching of English. It is always so lovely to see the imagination and concentration of children during the subject and I always enjoy talking to them about the subject. I meet regularly with Clare Tyler-Sell, who is the English Governor, to discuss actions and plans in this subject to continually improve.

The support of the governing body, parents and PTA is one of a kind and I feel so lucky to work alongside fantastic staff with the support of the community.

## Sarah Penn

### Parent Governor



I was elected as parent governor in 2016 and I am the parent of Freddie in Friesian class. The areas that I focus on are Safeguarding, the Early Years Foundation Stage, Phonics and PSHE. As well as attending Full Governor meetings, I sit on the Performance and Standards committee where I am involved in decisions about the curriculum and how it can be delivered to the children in an inclusive, creative and enabling way to give them the best possible opportunities and help them achieve their full potential.

I get to carry out 'Learning Walks' which involve spending time in the classroom talking to teachers and children and carrying out 'book looks' to understand what our children are doing. This term I had a lovely time with the Phonics group and Mrs Stephens, it was wonderful to see how enthusiastic and engaged everyone was. At the beginning of this term I spent time with Miss Cale carrying out a Safeguarding Audit for the Local Authority, making sure we have robust procedures in place and that we are doing our best to keep everyone happy and safe. I also carry out regular mini-audits to make sure we are keeping up-to-date records and I come along to parent evenings in case anyone wants to ask about what governors do or just have a chat!

I am proud to be a part of Amberley Parochial School and the wider community.

## UPDATE - AFTER SCHOOL PROVISION (ASP)

During the spring term, 2017, several parents approached governors at the school to enquire about whether after school provision could be a possibility. According to protocol set out by the Department of Education, a poll was carried out to see how many parents of children at the school would use an ASP if it was available at Amberley School.

The results of the poll showed that 25% of pupils at the school would make use of the ASP if it was there. A meeting was held to discuss whether hosting the ASP in school grounds could be feasible. Due to space and health and safety issues, it was decided against. The Amberley Parish Rooms Committee has been formally approached as a ASP venue due to its close proximity and ties with the school. However, the Parish Rooms Committee decided it would not be feasible due to other regular events held in the Parish rooms. The latest likely venue currently being investigated by the ASP committee is Littleworth Hall in Amberley. Just a short walk away, it has the space and facilities needed.

Sarah Lainchbury - Foundation Governor

## GOVERNORS' CALENDAR

6th March - Performance and Standards Committee

13th March - Finance and Resources Committee

27th March - Full Governing Board Meeting

24th April - Full Governing Board Meeting

1st May - Finance and Resources Committee

15th May - Performance and Standards Committee

26th June - Finance and Resources

3rd July - Performance and Standards Committee

10th July - Full Governing Board Meeting