

# Governor Talk

Huncote Community Primary School  
Academy Trust

Spring Term 2017

Issue 4

***Hello. Welcome to the first Governor Talk of 2017, a newsletter to keep you up to date with all the things we are doing to support your children.***

Since we last wrote, a number of changes have happened in the Governing body. My name is David Walker and I have just replaced Nick Towers as the Chair of Governors. Nick was an outstanding Chair of Governors but a change in his role at work meant he wasn't able to give the job as much attention as he wished to. We wish Nick all the very best in his career. I have been replaced as Vice Chair of Governors by Jacqui Stretton. Jacqui has been a Governor for a number of years and brings a great deal of expertise to the role with her background in HR.

We have also lost some other Governors who have come to the end of their term of office and at the moment we are in the process of selecting other Governors to strengthen an already very good team.

A major role of the Governors is to monitor the work of the school and ensure that everything is being done by Mrs Cumberlidge and her staff to educate your children in the best possible way. A number of monitoring exercises have already been done this year and yet more are planned in the next two terms. We are pleased to report that the exercises completed so far have shown that the school is in really good shape and that your children are really enjoying their work.

Mrs Cumberlidge and her staff have been working very hard to bring maths results up to match the very good results in English. To this end they have been liaising with six other local primary schools who have the same needs as ourselves. Governors will be watching the outcome with great interest.

Governors have also been delighted to see the range of activities taking place out of school. A number of trips and visits have taken place to support the curriculum and sporting achievement continues to go from strength to strength. Years 5 and 6 are looking forward to their visit to Conover Hall in March.

I was invited to attend the Nativity plays held just before Christmas and was astounded at the very high acting ability of the children and of the costume making skills of parents! The children were greatly helped on being able to act on our brand new staging. I also attended the "Breakfast with Santa" and left with my ears ringing from the noise generated by the children in response to Santa's questions - Great fun!

## Who's who.....

### *Chair*

Mr. Dave Walker

### *Head teacher*

Mrs. Rachel Cumberlidge

### *Vice-Chair*

Mrs. Jacqui Stretton

### *Community Governors*

Mrs. Dawn Pateman

Mr. Matt Jones

### *Staff Governors*

Mrs. Jill Matthews

### *Support Staff Governors*

Mrs. Ella Oliver

Miss Sam Milne

### *Parent Governors*

Mrs. Ruth Sansome

Mrs. Viv Swain

### *Clerk to Governors*

Mrs. Carly Harper

You may have noticed a great deal of work has gone on around the school to improve the environment. New windows and doors have made a huge difference and we are hopeful that the last stage-replacing windows in the hall-will happen sooner rather than later. We also have wonderful new signage around the site. Many of the words which appear on those signs were given to us by Parents in their excellent response to our questionnaires.

The Trim Trail is currently out of commission and we are seeking quotes to rectify the situation as soon as possible. Governors led by the Finance Committee and Mrs Cumberidge work really hard at making sure the money available to the school is spent in the wisest way possible. We are very disappointed that the much heralded increase in school spending by the Government isn't all we were led to believe it would be. Primary schools will have reduced budgets while Secondary Schools will receive an increase.

Governors will be attending the upcoming Parents' Evenings and we would be delighted to see you and answer any questions you have concerning our role.

Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter.

David Walker Chair of Governors.

## Your Governors Newsletter

What do you want to know about us?

Often, Governors and their role are not well-known.

Send us your questions to;  
**office@huncote.leics.sch.uk**



### Are you interested in supporting community education?

Are you keen to support the school being accountable to its mission? Are you prepared to volunteer some of your free time? If the answers are yes, then perhaps you should consider school governance? You don't need experience in education. All training is regular, local and free of charge. Whether you are a parent, carer, guardian, member of the local community or keen to support your community education in an active and positive manner you can enquire at;

**office@huncote.leics.sch.uk**

We are currently recruiting a parent governor and would welcome expressions of interest to the school office. We would then look to contact those interested once any interests have been expressed.