



Dore Primary School Governing Body Newsletter

Issue 7

Summer 2015

School Governing Body

Chair of Governors
Dr Steve Thomas

Head Teacher:
Sue Hopkinson

Vice Chair:
Lisa Bradshaw

Parent Governors
Laura Bruce
Sharon Court
James Hope-Gill
James Kenny-Levick
Jay McAllister
Ruth Woodham

LA Representative:
Cll Colin Ross

Staff Governors:
Sue Hopkinson
Jane Farrell

Co-opted Governors:
Lisa Bradshaw
Andrew Bush
Andrew Goodwin
Debbie Miller
Jackie Mills
Alex Percy
Dr Steve Thomas

Associate Governors
Jason Fletcher
Luke Hall

It is hard to believe that this academic year is drawing to a close.

The Summer term has been full of events - day trips, residentials, SATS (well done Y2's and Y6's), sporting events, drama, transition visits to new classes or new schools, children working hard to get in those final merits, reports written, Ofsted, etc...

Your children have worked fantastically hard this year alongside the most dedicated staff who have provided an exciting, challenging curriculum, continuing to make education a positive experience.

In April the Inspectors finally called. Dore Primary was deemed to be **Outstanding** by the Ofsted Inspection Team. We would like to thank and congratulate the entire TEAM at Dore Primary School who work so hard regardless if Ofsted call or not. We are very proud of the school on this excellent achievement and we are confident the outstanding qualities of the school will continue forward when our current headteacher Sue Hopkinson who has led the TEAM retires. Thank you Sue, thank you fantastic staff and thank you children.

New Headteacher Appointment

Following 2 days of rigorous interviews by the G.B. and H.R. services, we are delighted to confirm Mrs Lynnette Glossop has accepted the position of headteacher.

Lynnette Glossop is the current headteacher at Woodhouse West Primary School and also been the deputy-head at Hunters Bar Junior School.

During this school term Lynnette Glossop has made several visits to our school, working hard with the Senior Leadership Team and the Governing Body for a smooth transition.

We are very much looking forward to have Lynnette Glossop join Dore Primary School in September 2015.

Admissions and Consultation

During 2015, the city council sent parents newsletters, surveys, held presentations and workshops regarding lack of school places in South West Sheffield primary schools for 2016/2017 intake and onwards.

One of several aspects the council are looking into is the need for more places in the Dore/Totley area. One option being considered is to add 15 extra places for children to Dore Primary School.

The outcomes of the options with feedback from parents will be reported to the Council's Cabinet on the 22nd July.

Thank you to all who have given feedback regarding this difficult issue.

Information is available at:

<https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/education/about-us/consultation/school->

School Financial Budget

The budget we have submitted to the Local Authority for 2015/16 is a deficit budget.

The main reasons for this:

- Essential premises spending.
- Loss of SCITT income (the teacher training college we have worked with ended the course)
- Increase to staff salaries/pensions
- The funding per pupil at DPS remains static and less than many other schools in Sheffield and nationally.

Sue Hopkinson has been involved in a working party with headteachers in South West Sheffield who are in the same position. The funding issue has been raised with the Local Authority and Nick Clegg MP. The city council are currently looking into adjusting the funding formula for the next academic year.

The L.A. have visited the school and have been satisfied with the proposed budget and recovery plan we submitted. We will continue to work with them during the year.

Other income revenue streams are being looked into to bring in monies.

For our school it means another year of austerity and the reduced budget is a challenge for the school. The school is working hard to ensure the children will still have an engaging education and an apt learning environment.

Other News:

Mixed Classes: Following consultation with parents and SCT, the SLT made a decision regarding how the current 75 children in Y2 will move into juniors. Overall consensus was that it was important all Y2 children made the physical transition to the junior site. In September 2015 there will be 2 classes of Y2 children and there will be one class of 15 Y2 children and joining them are 15 of the current Y1 children. They will all be based on the junior site. All parents of the Y2 and Y1 children in this mixed class have been consulted by Sue Hopkinson and had the opportunity to discuss this with the teachers. The Governing Body wish to thank the SLT, SCT and the parents for their assistance with this difficult situation.

Reconstitution of the Governing Body: In line with Government legislation the G.B. was reconstituted in June 2015. Details of current positions are on the previous page. We would like to welcome Jay McAllister and Laura Bruce as newly elected parent governors. We would also like to thank those who have recently left the G.B. or leaving this Summer. Thank you all very much for your contributions and hard work.

School Fund: The number of contributions to the School Fund was a disappointing 58% this year. The school fund is money dedicated to bringing in new/different events for the children. It does not go towards any other costs at the school. What the school uses School Fund for: bringing in theatre, musical, historical groups, also teams like *Bloodhound* for special assemblies and projects with the children. This enriches their education, helps bring learning to life, adds variety into their daily learning. School Fund monies are now paid via Parent Pay. An annual contribution saves on much admin time/paper. With a deficit budget the school are now unable to cover amounts not met by the School Fund.

Working in Partnership: During the year the G.B. have discussed and looked at possible partnerships with other schools in Sheffield. This includes trusts and co-operatives. With changes within education it is essential we consider the future for the school. It is very much at the tentative steps of research and considering options. It is something we will be working on with the new headteacher Lynnette Glossop.

The well deserved Thank You's and the sad farewells....

A huge round of applause to **all the staff**. Your commitment is outstanding. Thank you, it's been a busy and demanding year and you have all worked so hard.

Thanks to the **parents/carers/families** of the children who volunteer their time and talents to enrich the education of the children. This makes a huge difference.

To the **DPA** - Thanks for organising lots of great events this year and the support you have given the school. Looking forward to the Autumn Fayre in September!

Thanks to **all the children** for filling up the school with such positive attitudes.

Farewell to our amazing **Y6's** who started at the same as Sue Hopkinson and leave at the same time. Thank you Y6 for being super ambassadors for the school.

Sad farewell waves to the staff who are leaving the school. Hard to imagine Reception without Jane Farrell, 20 years of introducing the little ones to school life - a job very well done Jane. Byes also to Pippa Naylor, Liz Butcher and all the student teachers. Thank you and good luck to you all.

And the final farewell goes to Sue Hopkinson who has led DPS for the last 7 years. There's been many unexpected challenges along the way and plenty of hard work. The G.B. wish to thank you for the vision you have had for the school, all your time invested into this school, your support and the dedication to the children and staff. Our best wishes to you and your family for all your future plans.

Happy Summer holidays to you all.

School Policies

Policies that have been recently ratified by Governors:

- Reconstitution of the Governing Body
- Social Media Policy