

Welcome to the first newsletter from the School Governors. We would like to keep parents informed about our role and activities at the school and will be sending out a newsletter three times a year.

## What is a school governor?

The Governors at Reculver are volunteers who bring to the role a range of skills and include staff, parents and members of the local community. Governors sign a code of conduct and receive regular training. We work closely with the staff at the school to ensure that the school continues to excel and most importantly that the children are happy and achieving their very best.

## Our Commitment to the School

- To make sure that the school's values and vision are evident in every aspect of school life.
- Attend regular meetings and make informed decisions in the best interests of the school.
- Be proactive in visiting the school and helping to achieve the school's goals.
- Gather information and discuss pupil progress data.
- Oversee finances and health and safety at the school.

## Summary of Terms 1 and 2

The Governors have enjoyed seeing the enthusiasm and determination of staff after the outstanding judgement by Ofsted in the Summer, to continue to strive forward and ensure that the pupils at Reculver receive the very best education. The Governors recently participated in a planning meeting where the focus was on broadening the vocabulary and reading challenge of pupils through every lesson. This was exciting and I'm sure in the new year your children will be surprising you at home with the new words and phrases they have learnt.

At our most recent LGB Meeting we welcomed Laura Bullen as our newest parent governor and shared the feedback we had from our visits and decided upon future actions. We also discussed how to strengthen the school vision, in preparation for our upcoming SIAMs inspection of church schools and this is something we will be collecting views from parents on in the New Year.

Several of our Governors have also attended Pupil Progress meetings this term and they were unanimous in their praise for the depth of knowledge of staff in these meetings and most importantly the amount of attention and support given to each and every child. At these meetings strategies for moving forward are discussed between the Head Teacher, management, class teachers and the pastoral team.

One of our biggest challenges going forward is linked to a lack of funding, and this is an area that governors work hard on with the school to lobby nationally for fair funding. You may feel that you can help in this work by signing and sharing widely this government petition for fair and increased funding in schools to help us to continue our important work with sufficient resources. <https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/232220>

## Christmas 2018

As Governors, the greatest pleasure is seeing the children happy and content. On recent visits we have been impressed with their behaviour, politeness and confidence, especially during this week with their nativity plays and Christmas celebrations. The Governors have sponsored a Christmas Tree at the St Mary's Tree Festival this weekend as a gesture to wish all the staff, children and parents of Reculver, as well as the wider local community a very happy Christmas.

**Finally, the Governing Body would like to congratulate the staff and pupils on a fantastic start to the school year and thank the parents for their continued support.**