

Governor Newsletter

Spring Term 2019

Staff

As you know we will have some changes to our staff after Easter when Miss I'Anson returns from her secondment and Mrs. Martin moves to a part time role at Caton Community School and continues to work at TFS for one day per week. We will welcome Miss Morgan as a permanent member of staff as Poppy Unsworth completes her maternity leave. Two governors were on the interview panel for this post, myself and John Wilson. Safer recruitment training is part of our required training and I will be attending a refresher course later this year.

At our spring Full Governing Body Meeting Mrs. Carole Butcher and Mr. John Wilson had both completed their four year term of office on the Governing Board. They were both happy to continue for another term of office.

Holidays

As part of our home school agreement parents and pupils make an agreement to attend school regularly. It is of some concern to the Governing Board that children are taken out of school for family holidays during term time.

To quote Lancashire County Council: 'Reducing absences in school is a key priority nationally and locally because missing school damages a pupil's attainment levels and disrupts school routines and the learning of others.'

We would therefore like to reinforce the importance of not booking holidays during term time. They will be recorded as unauthorized absence and as such carry the risk of a penalty notice and a fine.

Chairs Conference

On the 23rd March I attended the annual Chairs Conference held at County Hall. The key address was about the new Ofsted framework that will come into effect in September this year.

Safeguarding will continue to be an important part of the inspection as will the Quality of Education, Behavior and Attitudes, and Personal Development.

Governors are involved in curriculum planning and in monitoring its delivery through visits to school. During our meetings we receive updates on new developments and can ask questions about how effective our curriculum is.

I attended two work shops at the conference. The first one was about school improvement through Music and Arts. We looked at data showing how learning music has links to improving maths and english. At Tatham Fells music is taught to all children in both key stages. Music can help to develop self-confidence through performances and joining choirs or other music groups. It provides broader social experiences than within the school community.

The second workshop that I attended was on The Governing Boards

Strategic Role in Health and Safety. It is important to consider psychological as well as physical well being. We can do this through having a clear vision for our school and strong core values that we can all apply to daily school life. The Governing Board will also work to ensure that our procedures are clear and easy to follow.

Wishing you all a Happy Easter
Helen Wilkinson
Chair of Governors