



NORTH NIBLEY C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

GOVERNORS' NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the latest Newsletter which the Governors of North Nibley School are hoping will help communicate information about the Governors work with the School.

If ever you would like to know more details about who the Governors are, what they do or what it means to be a Governor then do please approach a Governor to ask!

The North Nibley Governors are:

*Mr Batchelor
Sue Bradley-Jones
Roly Brown
Emma Frith
Peter Hall
Di Hay
Chris Huxley-Reynard
Miss Parker
Sue Plant
Dawn Shepherd
Tassos Stamatopoulos*

Contacting Governors

Governors are readily contactable. Email Sue Bradley-Jones - chair@northnibley.gloucs.gov.uk or send a letter or message via the School Office. Any Governor will be happy to help you.

New Faces

There have been several changes in roles and personnel on the Governing Board since the beginning of this academic year.

Miss Allen stepped down as Staff Governor having served for many years as the staff representative on the Board. The Governors are very grateful for the work that Miss Allen put in and her very helpful contribution to meetings. The role requires spending additional time at the school, usually evenings, and is a voluntary option for a staff member so the Governors are grateful for Miss Allen's commitment. The new Staff Governor is Miss Parker who the Governors are delighted to welcome on to the board. We look forward to Miss Parker's input to the running of the School.

Sarah Corston stepped down as a Foundation Governor at the end of last year after a long service including periods of holding the role of Chair and Vice Chair. Sarah made a considerable contribution to the workings of the Governing Board and was Chair during the last OFSTED inspection where she represented the Governing Board extremely well. Again, we are very grateful to the contributions she made.

Sue Bradley-Jones moved from being Local Authority Governor to Foundation Governor.

We also welcome Sue Plant to the role of Foundation Governor. Sue's face may be known around the school due to the help she already provides and we are sure that she will quickly become a valued member of the team on the Governing Board.

These changes have left two vacancies on the Governing Board which we are actively looking to fill at the moment. If you are interested in becoming a Governor then a leaflet is available from the School Office giving the basic details of the role.

Finally, at the first meeting of the academic year, Sue Bradley-Jones was elected as Chair of Governors (more on Sue over the page) and Peter Hall was elected as Vice Chair. Committee Chairs were re-elected to the same posts: Leadership & Management, Di Hay; Finance & Premises, Chris Huxley-Reynard; Teaching & Learning, Tas Stamatopoulos.

Our Vision is to inspire and celebrate Learning, Achievement, Faith and Fun!

**MEET THE
NEW CHAIR**



**SUE
BRADLEY-JONES**

Sue Bradley-Jones was elected to the role of Chair of Governors in September 2016. Our reporter grilled Sue to help our readers find out a little more about her.....

Q: How long have you been a Governor?

Sue: I have been a Governor for two and a half years. We moved to North Nibley (from Kingscote) ten years ago, and I wanted to become more involved in the community. Becoming a School Governor seemed a particularly interesting way to do so.

Q: Can you tell us a little about yourself?

Sue: I am a Londoner by birth but my husband, Rhodri, and I have spent our married life in this area and our three children grew up here. I trained and practised for a short time as a teacher, then was a full time mum, and then spent some years designing small gardens. Trees are a particular passion and I have been involved at Westonbirt Arboretum for many years. I've been a magistrate for over 20 years, including in the youth court where you see what disadvantages many youngsters have. In the last few years grandchildren have arrived, much to our delight. Four so far, with a fifth due at Christmas!

Q: Tell us something about yourself that most people won't know?

Sue: Despite being unsparty and not very fit, I had an ambition to climb Kilimanjaro, which I fulfilled 16 years ago. You are on the roof of Africa there, which would have been exhilarating if I hadn't been so shattered!

Q: What book did you last read?

Sue: a wonderful novel called 'All the Light We Cannot See' by Anthony Doerr. It's set in wartime France and Germany and its story is of individual strength and goodness prevailing against the odds amidst war and destruction.

Q: What music do you listen to?

Sue: I like Verdi, Penguin Café Orchestra and Coldplay

Q: What is the most and least rewarding aspects of being a Governor?

Sue: The most rewarding aspect of being a governor is the involvement it gives me in an exceptionally nice school run by very dedicated staff. It gives me real pleasure to attend Friday Assembly and see what the children have been doing. The most difficult aspect is trying to get my head around all the data and to understand the plethora of acronyms!

Q: What three words would you use to describe the School?

Sue: Happy, Friendly, Lively

Q: What aspect of School Governance do you hope to focus on in your time as Chair?

Sue: I am lucky to be chair of a very capable and committed team of governors; currently our focus is on developing a three year strategic plan for the school. We are also working on how to maintain and strengthen the skill set of the governing body when vacancies arise. The governors' ongoing focus is of course to support the head teacher and staff in driving school improvement.

**Goodbye and
Thank You**

The Governors were very sad to receive confirmation that School Administrator, Lesley Todhunter, is leaving us for pastures new. Lesley has been a terrific support to many aspects to the School. Besides her efforts in the role as Administrator, Lesley was formerly a Governor at North Nibley and also took on the role of Clerk to Governors at the same time as being Administrator. What is particularly notable is that the business of running a School has changed hugely in the period that Lesley has been at North Nibley. She has, however, managed to keep up with all the changes and managed the day to day finances of the School excellently. We wish Lesley all the very best for a new chapter in her life and thank her for everything she has done for the School, wearing many different hats, over the years.

Thank You Lesley!

School Strategy

In our last newsletter we reported on the work the Governors have been doing on a Strategy for the School. Governors have committed to this extra series of meetings again this year and they have been very useful to consider the direction the School is going in. The discussions have already been able to take effect with an example being that, having identified the need for additional administrative support in the School, the opportunity to revise the role of Administrator following Lesley's departure can be taken. If the Strategic discussions had not taken place then it is very likely that a like for like replacement would have been sought which wouldn't necessarily have been what the School now needs.