



NORTH NIBLEY C of E
PRIMARY SCHOOL



GOVERNORS NEWSLETTER

Welcome back... and Farewell! In the autumn of last year Tas Stamatopoulos was persuaded to start an additional term of office as a Parent Governor. However, other priorities have now arisen and he feels it's time to make way for a new individual.

Dear Parents and Carers,

I have been parent governor at North Nibley for the last five years and it has been a rewarding and interesting role. But personal commitments necessitate that I have to resign as a full parent governor [while continuing to be involved as an Associate Member] and I am therefore writing this in the hope of interesting you in standing for the vacancy of parent governor.

Becoming a parent governor was an intimidating prospect at the start. I am a secondary school teacher, specialising in Special Educational Needs and Difficulties and this has been my main remit within the governing body. I vividly remember my first meeting about 5 years ago. Despite my experience within education, I had very little idea of what was going on. A fellow governor said to me: "Don't feel you have to know everything straight away.....it can take a full year to begin to see how the cycle of governing body business fits together!"

A Parent governor holds a unique position on a governing body. You have a very privileged and responsible role. You have the opportunity to make a difference, not only for the present, but for children in years to come; you can make a difference for other parents and influence the way in which school works with them

Nibley School is a great school. It has numerous strengths and, like every other school, it has areas for improvement. The strengths of the school's working relationship between the current and previous headteachers and the Governing Body have greatly contributed to the strengths of the school.

Consecutive Ofsted inspections have repeatedly highlighted the North Nibley Governing Body as a major strength of Nibley School. This governing body will put its arm around you, support you, help you use your individual skills and develop new ones

There is something great about volunteering your time, effort and skills in order to become part of the driving force behind continuous improvement of your children's school. It gives you a great feeling of achievement and contribution. As a parent governor you really can help by:

- bringing your ideas, skills and strengths to the table,
- continuing the good work of previous governors,
- proving that the strength of a school is reflected in parental involvement in
- the governing of the school

It is your turn to devote some of your precious time to your child(ren)'s school!

Tas Stamatopoulos



Wrap-around care: it's here!

Without any great ado Superstars started their before-and-after school club in November and have got off to a good start, with average attendances fluctuating between 1 and 12 per session, and no significant negative impact on the running of the school. We hope they will go from strength to strength as more parents take up this option of care for their children.

*Changes in the governing body have taken place with some leaving and others joining – welcome to Nadim Hussain as a new Foundation Governor. As ever, if 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 any one of us to **ask!***

Further information about the governors, their interests, activities and even attendance at committee meetings, can be found on our website - <http://www.northnibley.gloucs.sch.uk/governors-register-of-interests>

You can also find out there what you need to know if you are thinking of becoming a governor.

*Sue Bradley-Jones (Chair)
Peter Hall (Vice-Chair)
Chris Huxley-Reynard (Chair Leadership and Management)
Jude Saunderson (Chair Finance and Premises)
Tassos Stamatopolous (Chair Teaching and Learning)
Emma Frith
Abbie Parker
Paul Batchelor
Dawn Shepherd
Fiona Yarrow
Julie Collins
Ned Hussain*

The Ofsted Inspection: a journey from stress to satisfaction!

As you are all aware the school has had an Ofsted inspection since our last Governor newsletter; the 20 hours advance notice of this 'happening' inevitably causes raised blood pressure and lost sleep, but in the event it had a very pleasing outcome. These inspections also serve a useful purpose in helping the school set some new goals, and the governors are looking at the weaknesses identified in the report, with a focus on improving writing and ensuring a broad, balanced and rich curriculum. We continue to hold strategy meetings to pinpoint the areas where we can strengthen our support of the school.

Mrs Shepherd's governor report on the Class 4 Assembly

Once a year, each class presents an assembly on a Friday to celebrate and showcase the learning that has been taking place in class. On Friday 23 February 2018, it was Class 4's turn. They had been studying Space as a topic.

Ms Surridge had given the children a basic outline of the script and asked them to each write their own version thereof. So, some children had a lot of detail, and others the briefest of lines, ensuring that each child in the class had the opportunity to speak or act a few lines. There are 33 children in this class, so juggling the number of lines each child could realistically say against the length of speeches some of them might have aspired to must have been rather difficult for the teacher.

"S . P . A . C . E ." Five children stood up holding up these letters painted in bright colours for us to see. "S is for the Sun" – and so each letter was celebrated with some aspect of the topic – The Solar System, travel to the Moon, Exploration, etc. There were planets painted. Each child had written and learned a small part of the whole presentation, which they spoke in their turn. The depth of knowledge of some of the children was excellent. Others chose a more humorous approach – e.g. Dressing as scientists and kicking Pluto off the stage as it was deemed too small to be a planet.

The class had even adapted 'The Farmer's in the Dell' to 'The Planets of the Sun' and we were privileged to have some Year 5 musicians accompanying the singers on a clarinet, a trumpet, the piano and a recorder. A small criticism – the school's microphone is rather temperamental and therefore shunned in favour of the projection of young voices. In this instance, it would have enhanced the enjoyment of the soloists' performances enormously if it had been used.

Assembly was closed with a prayer about being thankful for the Universe to explore and asking for the bravery to do so.

Everyone involved should be congratulated for their hard work and great effort.

NEXT TIME - PREMISES UPDATE

Contacting Governors

Governors are readily contactable. Send a letter or message via the School Office or email Sue Bradley-Jones - chair@northnibley.gloucs.gov.uk