



# Bamford Primary School Board of Governors Newsletter

February 2017

## Board of Governors

- Alison Cook, Chair
- Gordon Danks, Vice Chair
- Kate Gemmell, Head Teacher
- Sue Firth, Clerk
- John Brierley
- Jen Chapman
- Elaine Bull
- Dominic Hewins
- Demelza Whitbread
- Justin Howell
- Mon Rodriguez –Amat

The next Full Governing Board will meet:  
Tuesday,  
20 June 2017

You will be able to find a comprehensive list of governors and their specific responsibilities and skills on the website.

If you have any concerns or questions, please contact the school office (the address is at the foot of this newsletter).

Welcome back after the half term, we all hope you had an enjoyable break. We've just a few things to note in this edition, that we hope you find interesting. If you have any further questions please don't hesitate to contact the Board of Governors.

## National funding news

### Government National Funding Cuts

You may have heard in the news before Christmas, that the funding formula which the government uses to assign budgets to schools is to change. We are currently in a consultation period, however the government has confirmed that a decision on the proposals will be made before the summer. The revised funding formula is far better than the Government's initial proposal, however Mrs Gemmell and the Board of Governors continue to follow the discussion, and ensure that we are planning ahead and anticipating any changes that may arise.

## Other news

**Promoting Bamford Primary School:** We are exploring opportunities to promote the school beyond the Hope Valley. If you know any parents who may be interested in visiting Bamford as a school of choice, please put them in touch with Sue or Emma in the school office, who would be happy to arrange a parent visit.

**Hope Valley Schools Cluster Initiative:** The school continues to work closely with other schools in the valley (including Hope Valley College), developing strong relationships and looking for opportunities to support across the schools. Cluster working is encouraged by the Local Education Authority and is recognised as good practice, maximising best practice and experience across the valley, resulting in positive outcomes for our children.

An example of some of the support initiatives include, joint Continued Professional Development for school staff, sharing views on schools initiatives and cluster moderation across schools which enables us to benchmark across schools and gives us confidence in our moderation process.

## Other news continued

**Key Stage results:** As reported in the last newsletter, the school had received the Key Stage results for EYFS, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. Mrs Gemmell, the teaching staff and the Governors having scrutinised the results are pleased to confirm there are no weaknesses in any of our key stage results, with some areas of improvement and strength against national and Derbyshire benchmarks. Further plans to improve and build on these results are identified in the School Improvement Plan. Well done to all the pupils and staff for their hard work.

**Forest Schools:** The investment is proving really beneficial; the children are really engaged and enjoying the Forest Schools experience. Mrs Coulson and Ms Gartside are working very hard to train and deliver teaching and will shortly be undertaking the final 4 day assessment; such is the level of award and recognition that Forest Schools contributes to learning. Our thanks to them both.

**Healthy Schools Community Award:** congratulations to the staff for being the first school in the County to receive the Award! Thanks to Mrs Chapman for leading the initiative in school and for submitting the schools 'story' for accreditation. Mrs Chapman will be coming into school to receive the award.

**PTFA:** Thanks to those of you who attended the recent meeting of the PTFA. It's not too late to attend the next meeting (Sue Firth can provide details). The group welcomes new supporters at any time and I've been informed that a list of planned activities will appear on school notice boards very soon. Even small contributions of time to support the PTFA can make a huge difference, helping raise valuable funds that help the school deliver enhanced learning opportunities for all pupils.

**Congratulations to Mrs Chapman too:** on the arrival of baby Isla. Very best wishes to Mrs Chapman and her family.

**Parent Governor Elections:** Parent Governor Elections have taken place and we are delighted that Joan Ramon Rodriguez-Amat (known as Mon) has been appointed to the Board. Congratulations and welcome Mon!

**Governors end of term:** John Brierley's term as Governor comes to an end in March and John has told us he will be stepping down from the role. Our thanks go out to John for all his support over the years and more recently as Chair to the Governors. Thanks John, with our best wishes.

If you are interested in becoming a Governor, watch the school news for another Governor Election. If you would like to know more about what being a Governor entails, do not hesitate to approach the Governors or speak to the school office and we would be delighted to tell you more over coffee!

## Other items

**Roof Repairs:** The school is in need of roof repairs. If any local contractors would like to quote, please contact Sue Firth/Emma Bennett in the School Office.

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