

GOVERNORS' GAZETTE

May 2019

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



Welcome to this issue of the Gazette – our way of keeping you informed about the governing body.

Remember, as governors we are your representatives so please let us know your views. You can contact me by emailing chair@st-pauls.gloucs.sch.uk or leave a message at the school office.

Gloucester Primary Schools' Football Association: History was made on 30 March when our footballers won the Small School's Plate Final by beating Castle Hill 5-4. This was the third time that the school had appeared in a final since the GPSFA competitions began in 1958 but it was the first time we had won.

It was a thrilling match, described by spectators as one of the best ever. St Paul's took the lead four times but Castle Hill equalised every time and the match went into extra time and the 'golden goal'. Our captain, Sopuruchukwu, scored his fourth goal and the cup was won.

I, and all the governors, send our sincere congratulations to him and the team – Xavier, Toby, Aman, Karnell, Kaiden, Lucious and Amari. We are very proud of your effort and commitment but also the very sporting way in which you conducted yourselves both on and off the pitch. You are, and always will be, a real credit to the school.

Very many thanks are also extended to Mr Gill and Mr Webber for the time, effort and expertise they have provided to the team despite our appalling sporting facilities.

Visit of Richard Graham, MP: On 26 April we welcomed Richard Graham, MP for Gloucester, to the school. He was both interested in and impressed by both our Phase One development and support for children with special educational needs. In discussion we shared with him the issues facing schools such as ours and he agreed to support us in resolving some of those. He was very complimentary about the work of the senior leaders, staff and governors. He was very impressed by his talks with the pupils and the quality of their work.

New Security Systems: I am sure you will have seen the new security features that we, as governors, have approved. It is a sad indictment on our society that such systems are necessary but we trust that you will appreciate that the school regards the safety of your children as of paramount importance.

Summer Assessments: As you will all know the assessment and testing season is upon us. National assessments for children at the end of Reception, in Phonics, in Years 2 and 6 will occur over the next couple of months. We strive to ensure that these are not stressful for our pupils but you can help too. Ensuring your child/children get a good night's sleep and not placing undue pressure on them will help. For Year 6 pupils we will be providing free breakfasts at 8.30am during the Test Week of 13th May.

Curriculum Review: We are embarking on a major review of our curriculum to ensure that it meets the needs of our pupils – your children. We will build upon the foundations of Phase One through Phases Two and Three. We will continue to ensure that our, already excellent, pastoral curriculum continues to develop our pupils' spiritual, social, moral and ethical values. The governors will be receiving updates from and questioning the senior leaders on a regular basis. We and the school will keep you regularly informed and, as and when appropriate, invite you to comment upon our proposals.

And Finally: We still have a couple of vacancies on our governing body. The role involves attending approximately seven meetings per year most of which start at 4pm and last for two hours. You do not need any special knowledge in education just an interest in providing the best possible opportunities for the children of our locality. Please contact me for a chat if you are interested in becoming a governor. I look forward to hearing from you.