

Great Easton Primary Governor Newsletter December 2019



Dear Parents

This is our first newsletter, which we aim to publish termly to keep you all informed as to the role of the school governing body, it's membership, as well as to keep you up to date with all that we get up too.

We wish you all a peaceful and merry Christmas.

The Governing Body

We would like to draw your attention to

- The school's 2019 National assessment results were excellent. Our Year 6 children surpassed the ambitious targets set and the school's achievements were, once again, almost the highest in the DEEP* group.
- Our sporting prowess - the school has had an excellent year, competing and often being highly placed in many different competitions and tournaments, including swimming, athletics, rounders and cricket. All Year 6 children left primary school being able to swim to the required National Curriculum standard.
- The hard work that has gone in to developing our Christian Distinctiveness, including the new School Vision and displays around the premise.

*DEEP - Dunmow Excellence in Education Partnership, grouping of local primary schools surrounding Dunmow of which Great Easton is a member.

Our school vision

We are God's children and global citizens. We will be bold enough to use our voices, brave enough to evoke change in the world and strong enough to stand up for what is right. We are valued and are part of a Christian family that grows together in faith, love and kindness

How to contact us

We are always keen to listen to anything you have to say, so please do not hesitate to contact us with any issues, ideas or suggestions via the school office.

Our photos can be found in the school entrance hall.

Forthcoming meeting dates

20 January Full Governors
7 February Finance & Premises

Training attended

Governors attended training on the New Ofsted Framework, which has come in force this academic year.

What do governors do?

School governors have three main roles:

- To ensure the school's vision, ethos and strategic direction
- To hold the headteacher to account for the education of children
- To make sure the school budget makes sense and is well spent

Who we are

The governing board includes staff representatives, governors elected by parents and those nominated by the local education authority, parish councils and the diocese.

Jeremy Toynbee - Chair/Parent Governor
Karen Scott - Vice Chair/Child Protection/Foundation PCC
Jon Badley - LA Governor
Sophie Delaney - Staff Governor
Sue Farrow - Foundation DBE
Rev'd Tim Goodbody - Foundation PCC
Claire Jackman - Headteacher
Rachael Kesterton - Foundation PCC
Natasha Lawrence - Parent Governor
Holly Miles - Associate Governor
Robert Pickford - Foundation PCC
Olivia Smith - Foundation PCC
Penny Steele - Foundation DBE
Kim Radford - Clerk to the Governors
DBE (Diocesan Board of Education) PCC (Parochial Church Council)

The committees

Great Easton governors meet as a whole once a term but we do most of our work through a series of committees:

- Finance and Premises
- Learning and Teaching
- Pupil and Personnel

All governors sit on at least one of these committees and they all meet at least termly, some more than that.

As well as being members of committees, governors take on responsibility for particular areas, such as child protection, SEND and subject areas.

Strategic Priorities 2019/20

Throughout the year we will be monitoring the school's strategic priorities for 2019/20; which are:
Quality of education
Strategic priority 1 - develop our 'Guerrilla' curriculum
Strategic priority 2 - monitor the delivery and teaching of the curriculum closely
Strategic priority 3 - Consider the outcomes pupils achieve as a result of their project

Behaviour and attitudes

Strategic priority 1 - continue to strive for high outcomes for vulnerable pupils who are at risk of underperforming
Strategic priority 2 - ensure children's welfare, safeguarding, well-being and attendance, are whole school priorities
Strategic priority 3 - ensure our children have resilience and positive attitudes towards mental health and emotional well-being

Personal development

Strategic priority 1 - develop courageous advocacy
Strategic priority 2 - develop our authentic outcomes

Leadership and management

Strategic priority 1 - develop capacity and effectiveness of middle leaders
Strategic priority 2 - ensure effective governance