



## **Pilgrim Primary Academy Governors' Newsletter March 2019**

Welcome to the Pilgrim Primary Academy Governors' Newsletter.

As Governors, we want to say a huge thank you to Mrs Meek and all the staff and volunteers for all their hard work so far this year. We also want to thank the parents for all their support and, last but not least, the children for making Pilgrim such a brilliant school.

### **What do Governors do?**

We are responsible for ensuring that the school is run well and that every child has the opportunity to reach their full potential. We provide strategic management and ensure accountability. Governors regularly challenge and support the Senior Leaders of Pilgrim Academy.

The Full Governing Body meets 6 times a year and Governors make additional visits throughout the year linked to our School Management Plan.

The Governing Body is committed to ensuring that improvements are being constantly implemented.

It continues to be a very exciting time for everyone at Pilgrim Primary and we look forward to a successful remainder of the school year.

### **Who are the Governors?**

Dr. Andrew Miller	Co-Chair of Governors and Trust Governor
Mr. Geoff Vaughan	Co-Chair of Governors and Trust Governor
Mr. David Sayer	Vice-Chair and Trust Governor
Mr. Andrew Scott	Staff Governor
Ms. Julie Morris	Trust Governor
Mrs. Debbie Rogers	Parent Governor
Ms. Victoria Whitehouse	Parent Governor
Mrs. Lisa Meek	Headteacher

## **What are the School's priorities for 2018 – 19?**

### Key Priority 1

Further accelerate progress in English (with a particular focus on Writing) in order to raise attainment at the expected and greater depth levels across the school.

### Key Priority 2 (2-year plan)

Ensure rates of progress are further accelerated so that the attainment gap between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged pupil groups continues to close in all subjects.

### Key Priority 3

Ensure that all teachers strengthen pupil acquisition of basic skills, by increasing the breadth of opportunities to practise and apply core subject skills across the curriculum within school and through home learning.

### Key Priority 4

Extend the principles and structures of Visible Learning to all subjects to further enable the impact of this to be seen in raised pupil attainment and acceleration of progress across the curriculum from their starting points.

### Key Priority 5

Ensure the consistent deployment of high-quality teaching assistants.

### Key Priority 6

Continue to accelerate progress in reading and writing with a particular focus on accelerating boys' progress.

### Key Priority 7

Ensure a consistent approach to the planning, provision and teaching of number in order to increase progress and attainment, and ensure every opportunity is exploited to develop basic number skills across the setting.

### Key Priority 8

Continue to enhance the outdoor environment, to ensure that all areas of learning are represented and there are many opportunities to practise basic skills in the specific areas of Literacy and Maths.

### Key Priority 9

To develop greater autonomy and distributed leadership at all levels.

## **Recent Activities**

Since September 2018 Governors have:

- Continued to work with the other schools in the Reach South Academy Trust
- Received reports from Subject Leaders on Safeguarding, Early Years Foundation Stage, English, Maths and SEND as part of a rolling programme of all curriculum subjects
- Received reports from the Maths Champion, Safeguarding Champion, SEND Champion, Statutory Grants Champion
- Developed and reviewed the Strategic Impact Plan and identified priorities for school development
- Reviewed the School Self Evaluation Summary (SES)
- Received reports from the Headteacher on the quality of teaching and pupil progress
- Received reports on the outcomes of Standards Days
- Received and interrogated data from the Department for Education
- Considered the use of Pupil Premium grants
- Considered school admission arrangements
- Received school finance updates
- Reviewed Reach South Policies
- Regularly monitored the Governor Action Plan (available on the school website)
- Planned a Governor Day when the work of the Governors was reviewed, classes visited, as well as developing an Ofsted Evidence Portfolio.
- Attended training on Ofsted readiness and Chairs/Clerks updates.
- Been involved in the Moderated Trust Review
- Visited school e.g. Headteacher and Chairs meetings, meeting subject leaders, attending Parent Consultation meetings, safeguarding
- Involved themselves with Parent, Teaching and Support Staff surveys
- Been closely involved with the appraisal of the Headteacher
- Received reports on the summer testing results and trends
- Received updates on people, finance and buildings
- Identified barriers to progress and celebrated all aspects of school life
- Identified Governor Champions to monitor and promote English, Maths, Safeguarding, Statutory Grants and SEND.

## **Planned Activities**

Governors will:

- Continue to review and develop both the Strategic Impact Plan and the Self Evaluation Summary
- Monitor the School's Performance Management process
- Review and develop their Governor Action Plan
- Review the school website