

Carrdyke Federation Joint Newsletter

October 2016

TWO SCHOOLS, ONE FAMILY
LEARNING, INSPIRING, ACHIEVING

Carrdyke Federation



Dear Parents

This month's newsletter is a joint one, with an update on recent changes to the governing body along with news from the schools.



Class Three from both schools visited the Workhouse at Southwell. I think you will agree the children really look the part!

Open Days For New Intake

We have arranged the following dates for new intake parents to visit the schools. Fliers have gone out to local nurseries but if you know of any families that might like to attend please pass on the details. Each year the competition for places with other schools gets more intense, your help signposting families to our schools has been very much appreciated in recent years.

Mrs Mary King's Tuesday 15th 1.30pm – 3.00pm

Walcott: Thursday 10th November 1.00pm - 3.00pm and 5.00pm -7.00pm

Governing Body Update

The governing body is made up in the following way:

Core:

Headteacher
Staff governor
Parent governor Walcott
Parent governor Martin
Foundation governor I
Foundation governor II
LA governor

Additional seven co opted

The governing body is only required to have the seven core members but the additional members give balance and additional experience. We have an un written rule that one of the additional governors is a staff governor so there is one from each site. Because Mrs Mary King's is a church school it always has two additional foundation governors appointed by the parish church council.

Rightly or wrongly the modern style of governing body has only two positions decided by election; an effective governing body must hunt for people with the skills it requires. In our case we have sought recently to appoint people with experience of financial management or an education background.

Our two most recent appointments have educational experience: Mrs Millband and Mrs Olliver. One of our ambitions is to develop out door learning and Mrs Olliver has a background in forest school and outdoor learning, we look forward to drawing on her knowledge in this area.

We are fortunate that we have a number of governors who are able to spend time in school regularly and as a result have a very good understanding of the strengths and weaknesses in both schools. This is

Our LA governor Patricia Bradwell has had to give up her role due to increasing work pressures. She has been seconded to work in Rotherham on safeguarding following the serious child abuse issues that LA suffered, this is in addition to her role within the Lincolnshire authority. I would like to take the opportunity to thank Mrs Bradwell for all her support in the last few years, she has used her influence to help the schools on many occasions, she will continue in her role as trustee at Martin.

Who's Who on the Governing Body



Rebecca Phillips (Chair of Governors).

I have been on the governing body for four years. My two children are in years five and six at Martin. I try to get into both schools at least one afternoon a week and this time has allowed me to really get to know the staff and children at both sites.

As the Chair, my aim is to fulfil our schools' vision of developing happy children who have a confident voice and are respected by all and who have a strong love for learning. We are very lucky to have small schools in our communities and I look forward to being part of their ongoing success. Children at our schools achieve really well, as both Ofsted inspections proved.



Samantha Olliver (Co opted)

I am a mother of two boys, one currently at Walcott. I have been a parent helper on many trips and hearing readers. Prior to moving to Walcott I worked in outdoor education including 'forest schools' activities. I look forward to working with the Carrdyke community and helping the schools achieve their woodland education vision.



Jacqueline Millband (Co opted)

For the last 11 years I have been working as a secondary English teacher. Having started my career at a comprehensive school in Boston, I now work at Carre's Grammar School in Sleaford. I believe that my educational background will serve me well in my role as a co-opted governor. I am passionate about education but especially about how children can be nurtured to realise their full potential. I am proud to be a governor serving both schools in the Carrdyke Federation and hope that during my term I am able to help each school in their aim to inspire the children in their care to achieve their very best.

Having 2 daughters who attend Mrs Mary King's school (in years 2 and 5) I truly value the hard work and dedication of the staff who work with them on a daily basis. We have a strong, active governing body which is dedicated to maintaining and improving standards for our children in all aspects of school life. We have exciting plans for the future, which all our children will benefit from during their time with us



Chris Bradbury (Co opted)

Hello I am Chris Bradbury and have lived in Martin for 5 years. I am involved in Health and Safety, Complaints and Policy sub committees. I am looking forward to the many challenges ahead for the federation of governors and firmly believe that it is a team effort involving staff, pupils, governors and parents that will see both schools reach their potential. I have twin daughters who started school last year and therefore have vested interest in ensuring we provide the best environment possible for our children to flourish.



Michelle Manning Co opted (Safeguarding)

My Name is Michelle Manning and I am the community governor for the Carrdyke Federation.

My son is currently in year 5 and attends Mrs Mary Kings School.

I have worked in education for the last 16 years at both Primary and Secondary level. I have previously been a parent governor for a large primary school. In the last year I have worked with Mr Sewell to audit and review the safeguarding procedures and policies for the schools. This is an



Chris Warren Co opted (Safeguarding)

Both my children attended Walcott School some time ago, but I would like to think that I can represent the local community's interests as a governor. I have been a governor for eight years and had a spell as chair of governors at Walcott prior to the federation. I am involved in monitoring Health and Safety and have a role as one of the safeguarding governors. I always enjoy visiting the schools and seeing the changes that have occurred over recent years.



Reverend Beth Weston (Foundation Governor)

Lots of you will know me from the school church services. I am the ordained assistant priest in the Carrdyke Parish but have recently been appointed the chaplain to Lincoln Prison. I have regularly visited both schools for the last few years taking assemblies and collective worship. I am delighted to have the opportunity to be part of the governing body. My role will be to further strengthen the church school ethos and links with the parish at Mrs Mary King's School. I

have also recently joined the school trustees and look forward to learning more about this responsibility.



Rebecca Busby (Parent Governor and link governor with Tim Tin Nursery)
I am married to David, have four children and we live in Martin Dales. Our eldest three children (currently Year 6, Year 4 and Year 2) have thoroughly enjoyed attending Mrs Mary King's School since Reception and our youngest has just started TimTin Playgroup.

I was initially elected as a co-opt governor two years ago, to provide a link with Timtin Playgroup and I was delighted to be elected as parent governor last year. I am part of the sub committees that concentrate on Finances, Standards and Management of the Carrdyke Federation.

As a primary school teacher and parent, I have a passion for education and the continued success and development of our Federation. I endeavour to support, advise, advance and challenge the schools to be the best they can for all our children.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any queries regarding the Federation and I will be more than happy to help.

Other governors:

Brenda Crouch (Foundation Governor)

Mrs Wheatley Staff (Co opted)

Mrs Miller (Core)

Victoria Boardman (Parent Governor)

Uniform

I know it's the time of year when parents are buying winter footwear. Please ensure that girls have black sturdy shoes or ankle boots, **knee length boots, Ugg boots and fashion wear are not part of the uniform.** Equally we have been **very concerned in recent winters when girls have only had fabric ballet style shoes** when it has been icy and snowy.

Children need winter coats; we are constantly surprised how many children don't have them on rainy and cold days. We still go out to play on cold and rainy days. If you are struggling to provide any of these basic items please come and have a quiet word so that I can help

Mrs Mary Kings Key Stage 2 Play

This year the staff have decided that the Class Three and Four play will be at the end of the summer term rather than Christmas. We have found that whilst it is a lovely Christmas event, it is not the ideal time for there to be so much disruption to routine. Having the play in the summer term gives a focus to those children about to leave the school, and allows them to really go out on high. It provides a welcome change after SAT's and the assessment period. I know some of you will be disappointed by this change but my experience of making this change at Walcott many years ago was really positive for everyone. We will review how well it works this year before deciding whether to make this the regular pattern.

Diary Dates

Mrs Mary King's

Autumn Term 2 starts Tuesday 1st November
Wednesday 9th November Parents Evening 3.30pm – 7.00pm
Thursday 17th November Y1 Y2 Y3 Flu Vaccinations / Visit by Gail Clarke author and illustrator
Friday 18th November Christmas Fair 3.30 pm- 5.30pm
Wednesday 14th December KS1 Christmas Play 1.30pm and 6.00pm
Thursday 15th December Class 2 Theatre Trip / KS1 play 6.00pm
Friday 16th Carol Service in Church 2.00pm
Monday 19th December Class Parties
Autumn Term 2 ends Tuesday 20th December
Spring Term 3 starts Wednesday 4th January 2017
Monday 23rd January Archery Day
Spring Term 3 ends Friday 10th February 2017
Spring Term 4 starts Monday 20th February
Tuesday 28th February Shrove Tuesday Pancake Race at 3.00pm
Wednesday 22nd and Thursday 23rd March Bikeability
Spring Term 4 ends Friday 31st March
Summer Term 5 starts Tuesday 18th April
Summer Term 5 ends Friday 26th May
Summer Term 6 starts Monday 5th June
Summer Term 6 ends Wednesday 19th July
Autumn term 1 **2017** starts Tuesday 5th September

Walcott

Autumn Term 2 starts Tuesday 1st November / Parents Phonics workshop 3.30pm
Tuesday 15th November Parents Evening Classes 1,3,4 / Visit by Gail Clarke author and illustrator
Wednesday 16th November Parents Evening Class 2
Monday 5th December KS1 Christmas Play 2.00pm and 6.00pm at Village Hall
Friday 16th December Church Carol Service 10.00am / Christmas Jumper Day
Monday 19th December Christmas Meal at Village Hall
Autumn Term 2 ends Tuesday 20th December
Spring Term 3 starts Wednesday 4th January 2017
Thursday 5th January Mad Science Assembly – Club starts later in the term
Spring Term 3 ends Friday 10th February 2017
Spring Term 4 starts Monday 20th February
Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th March Bikeability
Spring Term 4 ends Friday 31st March
Summer Term 5 starts Tuesday 18th April
Summer Term 5 ends Friday 26th May
Summer Term 6 starts Monday 5th June
Summer Term 6 ends Wednesday 19th July
Autumn term 1 **2017** starts Tuesday 5th September

Parent Pay

Mrs Nicholson and Mrs Hessel would like to thank everyone for registering with Parent Pay. We know this is a bit of a chore to start with, but the benefit to the school is enormous. It will save many hours of office work a week which can be better used. With the current on-going problems with the council's finance software, both administrators have a greatly increased workload ensuring the schools budget is correct. Like many schools we have a massive backlog of incorrect billing, Mrs Mary King's School for example has paid the water rates for twelve other establishments. This is not down to any error on our part; the work to recoup this money for our own children is very time consuming.

Woodland School

As mentioned in previous newsletters we are planning to offer the children planned opportunities for learning in our woodland areas. At Martin we have now had the woodland area fenced off and a gate put in from the field. This has been funded by a grant from the Trustees. The next step is to create a seating circles within both the wooded areas. Once we have done this and cleared any rubbish and hazards we will be ready to get started with activities, this will include stories around a camp fire, den building, woodland crafts. If anyone can help with the seating logs or is interested in helping I would love to hear from you...

