

Swanmore Primary School Governors' Bulletin

Edition: 1

January 2010

Welcome to the first Governors' Bulletin

Regulations have changed and, as a Governing Body, we no longer have a legal obligation to host an AGM or produce an annual report. However, following consultation with the Parent Partnership Group, we thought a regular communication would allow us to share with you a little more about who we are and the kind of things we get up to. It is proposed that we aim for a termly publication and include information that you may not find out from anywhere else. Please let us know your views, thoughts and ideas for inclusion by returning the attached slip to the school office.

The Governing Body Structure

The Governing Body is made up of 6 sub-committees, each with its own chair and terms of reference. These committees handle the bulk of the work of the Governing Body and then at the Full Governing Body meetings decisions are taken based on reports received from the sub-committees. They are :

- Admissions
- Finance and Buildings
- Personnel
- Curriculum
- Health and Safety
- Pay Committee

In addition some members have specific responsibilities such as child protection, school admissions or pupil exclusion.

School Improvement Plan

The school is constantly reviewing and evaluating its progress. We use end of year test results in order to formulate school improvement targets. Detailed improvement plans have been completed and were discussed with the Governing Body at their meeting in November. Broadly speaking they are:

1. To improve the standard of reading across the school.
2. To improve the standard of maths across the school.
3. To increase the use of ICT to enhance the wider curriculum.

Each area has a number of specific improvement, development and maintenance targets to support overall improvement.

Focus on Health and Safety

Andy Yeoman and 4 of the Governors attended a training session one September evening at St. Johns in Shedfield. It was an extremely interesting session and the health and safety committee are now incorporating some of the recommendations and advice into their priority workstreams for the coming year. These include introduction of joint inspections with Andy Haslar, our site manager, reviewing our Health and Safety policy, working with the administration team on our first aid policies and documentation and the development of a critical incident plan for the school.

Next bulletin:
An update from the Curriculum Committee...

Pre-School Update

At the end of the Summer term we heard that the County had approved the plans to site Swanmore Pre-School in our grounds. It is hoped this will be operational by September 2010 with capacity for 24 child places per session with 10 sessions available.

In the longer term breakfast and after school clubs are planned.

A management committee has been formed with representation from our Governing Body.

We would like to congratulate the Pre-School on their recent OFSTED achievement of "Outstanding".

School Open Morning in October

School Governors were well represented at the Open Morning for prospective parents in October. We all felt really proud to be showcasing our fantastic school to the next generation of pupils and their parents. Year R in 2010 is expected to be significantly smaller than this year so attracting as many pupils as possible to maintain funding streams is imperative.

Exciting Renovation in Progress ...

The Governing Body are currently planning extensive modernisation and renovation of the school hall during the summer holidays 2010. Architect's plans are in draft form and financial planning is well underway.

Watch this space!!

Website Reminder

Further information on who the governors are, what their role is and how to become a school governor can be found on the school website along with minutes of past meetings and our special thank you page. Just click on the pencil marked Governors.

www.swanmoreprimary.org.uk

Governor Profile – Ian Green

I have been a school governor since September 2006 and I am very proud to be the Chair of Governors of such a special and outstanding school. My son Alex spent seven happy years at Swanmore Primary School before moving on to Swanmore College of Technology, and my daughter Emma is currently in year 5 and enjoying primary school life to the full. By profession I am a teacher, and staying up to date with educational changes provides me with an in depth knowledge of education and the challenges faced by our fantastic team of teachers at Swanmore Primary School.

When not working, I enjoy being outdoors. I enjoy a range of outdoor activities which include mountain biking, orienteering, canoeing, hill walking and camping. I am a lifelong fan of Liverpool Football Club, and since moving to Hampshire eight years ago, I have become a Saints fan as well. I enjoy going to see the Saints play at St. Mary's, especially when they play well and win! I am also a newly qualified Scout Leader. I enjoy the role of developing key life skills with the children, as well as developing outdoor survival skills and sharing with the children the wonderful experiences that outdoor adventure provides.

Ian Green, Chair of Governors



By Emma Green

Did you know...?

There are two memorial stones on the front of the school. One is from 1864 with the opening of the first purpose-built school, and a foundation stone was laid by Mrs. Elizabeth Law (a governor for 32 years) at the commencement of Phase 2 of the 1960's/early 1970's major building programme.

Can you find them?????

Bob Smith, our treasurer and governor with specific responsibility for history and archives, is currently writing a short history of the school.

How to contact a School Governor

If you have any issues or concerns that are not being addressed by the normal communication process within the school, you can contact a governor in writing addressing your letter to the Chair of Governors, Ian Green, and passing it to the admin team in the school office.

All correspondence will be treated with confidentiality and a response given.

Governors' Bulletin

Please let us know your views, thoughts and ideas for inclusion or maybe you have a question you would like the Governors to answer in the next bulletin:

Name Date