



BARTONS PRIMARY SCHOOL

If you would like to contact us please do: clerk@bartonsprimary.school.

Governor Newsletter Summer Term 2019

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

As the school year 2018/19 closes we would like to take this opportunity to say a few thank yous. To all the teaching and non-teaching staff past and present, thank you for your commitment and passion for educating the children. We all know that it is so much more than a 9am-3pm job. Also, thank you to the office and premises team who make sure the school is run smoothly and offers a friendly face to the children and visitors. Thank you to parents and carers for your commitment, time and support to the school and the children. We are very grateful for the time and energy you give to the school, including the trips, assemblies, dress-up days etc. They could not happen without you.

Children, thank you for being YOU: for working hard and doing your best. Every time we come into the school you are polite, full of enthusiasm for what you are learning and proud of all you have achieved. You are a credit to the school - we think you are amazing and we are all so very proud of you. Good luck to all those leaving Bartons at the end of this school year, but especially Year 6. We hope you have enjoyed your time here - good luck in your new schools and all your big adventures! Also, thank you to all those who have previously been Governors and have supported the work of the Governing Body and have done so much work for the school. Thank you all for your time and commitment.

As you may know, school Governors are volunteers who want to make a positive contribution to children's education. They set the school's strategic direction in conjunction with the Headteacher and senior leadership team. The Headteacher and staff manage the school on a day-to-day basis, with Governors taking an oversight position. The main purpose of governance is to provide confident and strong strategic leadership which leads to robust accountability, oversight and assurance for educational and financial performance. All Governing Bodies have three core functions which are:

- ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- holding executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the organisation and its pupils, and the effective and efficient performance management of staff; and
- overseeing the financial performance of the organisation and making sure its money is well spent.

Part of our governor role is to act as a critical friend to the Headteacher and the senior leaders. We do this by asking questions about all aspects of the school's performance, particularly regarding data showing pupil progress and attainment. At the end of the day, we are all here to strive for the best possible outcomes for the children at our school, and we hope that by being part of the Governing Body we are helping to ensure this happens.

So, here at Bartons, the Governors attend a number of meetings and events including the following:

- ◆ Full Governing Body (FGB) and committee meetings twice per term, learning walks with the senior leaders, assemblies; monitoring visits for areas/subjects such as Safeguarding, English, Maths, Special Needs, Pupil and Sports Premiums, Finance, Health and Safety; staff appointment panels; governor training courses; termly briefings run by West Sussex County Council; parents' evenings and new parents meeting; school events etc

As we reported this time last year, the Governing Body completed an external review which resulted in a substantial action plan... we are pleased to say that most actions are now complete. As a result of this, we feel the governing body is stronger and more effective than previously and we have a good relationship with the senior leaders and staff at the school - after all we are all part of Team Bartons!

Have a wonderful warm and sunny summer and we will see you in September to work hard and enjoy all 2019/20 has to offer. Best wishes and Go Team Bartons! ***Bartons' Governors***