



## Welcome

Welcome to this Autumn 2019 edition of our School Governors Newsletter.

## Margaret's retirement

This will be a year of transition for the school as we say goodbye to Margaret at Christmas and prepare to welcome a new headteacher in September 2020.

Jo Hodge has been appointed Acting Headteacher for the period January to August 2020, and we are currently working to backfill her current role. The new headteacher role is to be advertised in January with interviews and appointment in March in preparation for a September start.

## SAT results

We are immensely proud of the staff at the school who work tirelessly to teach and support the children and are pleased to report that child development during Early Years (Little Oaks) and attainment at the end of Key Stage 1 (Year 2) and end of Key Stage 2 (Year 6) Standard Attainment Tests last year was once again well above the Wiltshire and National averages.

The school has also recently been awarded Artsmark Gold and Platinum School Games Mark, reflecting our commitment to the wider curriculum. Well done to all!

## Did you know?

This year our Teaching Assistants are working in a (slightly) different way during the afternoons, supporting children 1:1 and in small groups to help every child make the best possible progress they can.

## Spotlight: Premises

The Premises & Safety Sub-Committee of the Governing Body oversees and assists with the implementation of safety policies, general maintenance and essential repairs to the school buildings and its grounds. Our primary aim is to provide a safe, secure and comfortable environment for the children and staff. We also look for opportunities to make improvements in support of the school's objectives, such as the recent field levelling and the library / Willow extension.

Like other areas of school life we are, however, constrained by a limited budget and are extremely grateful for the support & generosity of parents.

Our next voluntary Grounds Day is on **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October**. We very much need your support on these days, so please come along and lend a hand for an hour or two, when we will be focusing on school boundary maintenance works and a general tidy up of the grounds. Full details to follow.

## Will you join us?

We currently have two vacancies on the Governing Body which we wrote to you about earlier this month. Please consider carefully whether you might be able to join us—it is a great way to practically support the school. Responses to the school by Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September please.

## Eleanor Blanksby

Please join us in welcoming Eleanor Blanksby as the new Sycamore (Year 1) teacher. She is a highly gifted and creative teacher who we are fortunate to have as part of the team.



## Introducing: David Warren

As a Chartered Surveyor I have a passion for the built environment. I chair the Premises & Safety Committee, something I find both rewarding and challenging.

We have lived in the village since 2001 and my wife Lucy and I have two boys with the youngest, Caspar, at the school. I believe the school is one of the village's greatest assets, and that volunteering for the school benefits not only the staff and pupils, but also the wider community.



# Holt Voluntary Controlled Primary School School Governors

September 2019

## Who are we?

The governing body comprises Margaret Harnden (Headteacher), Jo Hodge (Deputy Headteacher) and a group of volunteers made up of parents and other members of the local community.

			Vacancy					Vacancy			
Name	David Warren	Jo Hodge	TBC	Jon Weeks	Kevin Sofield	Margaret Harnden	Mark Brown	TBC	Martin Allsop	Ruth Mecredy	Samantha Swann
Role	Local Authority Governor	Staff Governor	Parent Governor	Parent Governor	Parent Governor	Staff Governor	Foundation Governor	Co-opted Governor	Parent Governor	Ex Officio – Church Representative	Foundation Governor
Subject areas of oversight	Geography; Neighbourhood lead	Deputy Headteacher	TBC	Literacy; Pupil Premium; Physical Education	Personal, Social & Health Education; ICT	Headteacher	Mathematics; Creative arts	Premises & Safety Committee	Science; French	Religious Education; Special Educational Needs	History

## What do we do?

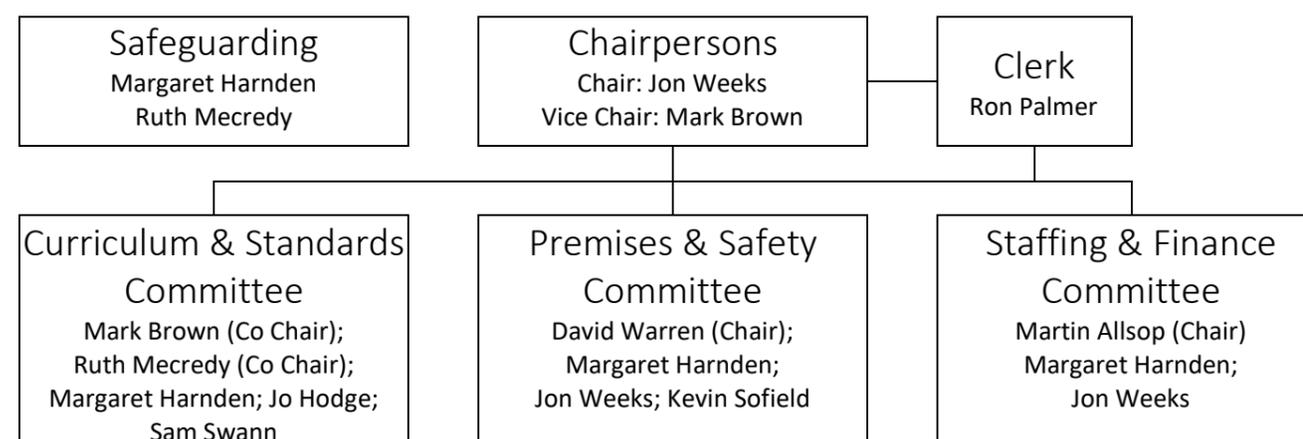
We provide strategic leadership and accountability for the school by setting the school's aims and policies. Our key role is to:

- Ensure clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- Hold the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance management of staff; and
- Oversee the financial performance of the school and make sure its money is well spent.

The full School Governing Body meets once per term. As well as sitting on the full School Governing Body, we each have delegated oversight of different areas and are organised into various committees.

We are supported by our Clerk, Ron Palmer.

## How are we organised?



## Contact

Your feedback is important to us. We welcome suggestions which can be made in person or by emailing [governor@holt.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:governor@holt.wilts.sch.uk).

