



Holt Voluntary Controlled Primary School

School Governors Newsletter

Summer 2019

Welcome

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

Margaret's retirement

As you already know from the letter sent on 6th June, Margaret will be retiring as headteacher at the end of this calendar year. Margaret has put her heart and soul into her role. She has led the school to where it is today, and her love for the children has shone through everything she has accomplished. Whilst Margaret will be sorely missed, her retirement will begin a new chapter in the life of the school which will bring new opportunities.

We have met with Wiltshire Council and will be working with them to appoint a new headteacher to start in September 2020. An acting headteacher will be appointed to cover the first half of 2020.

Becky Ridd – THANK YOU!

We hope you join us in wishing Becky all the best for the future when she leaves the school at the end of the summer term. Becky has been such a blessing to so many children at Holt School over the years, and has challenged us all to be more environmentally aware!

The recruitment process to appoint a replacement teacher for Sycamore is nearing completion.

Did you know?

Although pupil numbers at the school have grown significantly over the last decade, they peaked in 2017 and Wiltshire Council's projection is that they may reduce further over the next few years.



Introducing: Sam Swann

I have lived in Holt for 19 years and my two children, now all grown up, attended Holt school. I became a Foundation Governor at the start of this academic year representing the URC Church.

I sit on the Curriculum and Standards Committee and feel privileged to be part of a team of teachers, staff and volunteers, all of whom do a fantastic job supporting the school.

Spotlight: ICT

Kevin Sofield, Peter Bryant and Hannah Greenman have been working to develop the school's Information & Communication Technology (ICT) strategy.

The strategy covers all areas of ICT use, including the children's digital learning environment; audio-visual equipment used in the classrooms; back-office systems & applications, and training as well as a potential staff & parent web portal.

The strategic focus is to enhance the learning environment, in particular the school's mobile devices, by managing cost of ownership issues and ensuring investments in new technology are timely and provide best value-for-money.

SIAMS

As a church-school we aim to have a distinctly Christian character, and our vision and ethos reflect this. The new Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) framework focusses on 'educating for life in all its fullness' with four basic elements of **wisdom, hope, community** and **dignity**.

Ruth Mecredy and Margaret are in the process of evaluating how we as a school fit within the new SIAMS framework to ensure we are well-positioned ahead of our next inspection, due in the 2019/20 academic year.

Data Protection Officer

Peter Bryant has kindly agreed to become the DPO for the school, so has stepped down as a Governor. Many thanks to him for his ongoing contribution to the school.

Our school aims to provide a rich and creative curriculum within the context of Christian values and beliefs, which will foster within each child a lifelong love of learning.

