

## Cotherstone School Governing Body

### Newsletter – February 2017

As this is the first Governors' Newsletter of 2017 we would like to wish you all a Happy New Year! We would also like to extend a warm welcome to Elsa, Aaron, Josh and George and their families who have joined school this term.

#### **Governor Visits Into School**

Jane Ayre, our Governor with special interests in Literacy and Safeguarding, visited the school earlier this half-term to carry out visits in both of these interest areas. The Literacy visit focused upon the school's approach to writing as well as future plans. During this visit it was noted that the increased focus placed upon writing was having an impact; results in Key Stage 2 handwriting are extremely positive with the school being placed in the top 10% and Key Stage 1 children are achieving the expected standard. A Governor Safeguarding visit is required every term. In previous visits Jane has met with children from across the school to find out their views of safety and wellbeing in relation to their time in school. This latest visit looked at the success of the Online Safety Training that was delivered to parents at the end of last term. The parents that attended felt the session was very informative and gave lots of useful information to help keep themselves and their children safe while using the internet. Jane was pleased to report that children across the school had been taught basic 1<sup>st</sup> aid techniques including the recovery position.

As the Governor post with a special interest in Health and Safety is currently vacant, Governor Peter Webb kindly stepped in and carried out the Health and Safety Walk Around last term.

#### **Governor Training**

Our new Chair, Rachel Goldsborough, attended training in December to bring her up to speed on the responsibilities and requirements of her new role.

#### **Friends of Cotherstone School**

The Friends do a fantastic job in supplementing the school's finances and are currently planning, amongst other things, an afternoon tea in March and a family bingo night in May. The last bingo night was great fun and enjoyed by all so look out for further information. Your support of the FOCS' activities is much appreciated and makes a real difference.

#### **Parent Governor Vacancy**

There will be a position for a parent governor arising next half term. If you are interested in becoming a parent governor and would like an informal chat to find out more about it then please contact Dr Jellis or Rachel.



### **CKC Update:**

We have had some great activities this term ranging from lemon volcanoes to badminton to doodling spider bots!

Starting the first Wednesday back after half term we will be taking part in a 'Bee-Friendly Project' in conjunction with North Pennines AONB and Teesdale Action Partnership.

Children will learn through fun activities about their environment, the importance of pollinators and how they can help to create a sustainable habitat for bees.

Here is the program of activities starting 28<sup>th</sup> Feb (with the exception of sport on Thursday, which starts on 9<sup>th</sup> March)

Tuesday – Cookery Club

Wednesday – Bee-Friendly Project

Thursday - Athletics

Please remember to sign up for the sessions with Claire or Alison at the school office.

The club sessions run from after school until 4:30pm, children are offered a small snack before the session starts to keep them going until home time.

CKC runs from 3:15pm to 5:15pm every day after school and provides a safe and fun environment for the children to play and relax after school.

**Wishing you all an enjoyable half-term break!**

If you have any issue that you would like to raise with the Governing Body please contact Rachel at [rachelgoldsborough@gmail.com](mailto:rachelgoldsborough@gmail.com) or 650041.

