



## **Cotherstone School Governing Body**

### **Newsletter – July 2018**

**Where did that year go? It only seems a blink of an eye since this academic year began in September! Another busy and successful year has gone by with our pupils enjoying a range of activities, opportunities and learning experiences, planned and delivered by our dedicated and hard-working staff.**

#### **Staffing & Premises arrangements 2018/19**

Thanks to the Finance Committee of the Governing Body, who, along with Dr Jellis, have managed our budget effectively to maintain our current staffing levels, three class system and the high ratio of teaching and support staff. Many schools of similar size and larger are unable to provide this level of staffing and we are grateful to the Finance Committee for their time and hard work in securing this level of support for our pupils.

Cotherstone Pre-School are moving to their new premises ready for the start of the Autumn Term. Our village is fortunate to have its very own pre-school provision and we wish them every success in their new venue. In the meantime, Class 2 are looking forward to moving into their new classroom which will provide a larger, more adaptable space and release the current Class 2 space for a variety of uses and activities to the benefit of all our pupils.

If you are able to lend a hand “sprucing up” Class 2’s new home any help would be appreciated on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday of next week.

#### **The Governing Body**

The current membership of Cotherstone Primary School Governing Body is as follows;

Rachel Goldsborough

Alison Lamb

Dr. Rebecca Jellis

Richard Batchelor

Alison Sabey

Cllr Richard Bell

Sally Baker

Michelle Ferguson

Teresa Wilcox

Tamsin Coulson

Alison Butler

Daniel Blagdon

Louise Whitburn

We would like to thank Dr Jane Ayre, who is retiring from the Governing Body, for her valuable contribution and support for our school over the years. Dr Ayre has devoted a huge amount of time, effort and expertise both as Chair and as a Governor and her dedication has made a positive difference to our school and its pupils.

If you are interested in joining the Governing Body or would like more information about what the role involves, please see Rachel Goldsborough or Alison Lamb.

### **Governor Visits into School**

This term Governors have attended a meeting of the full Governing Body and relevant committees have met to look at the curriculum, education standards and achievement, finance and monitoring.

Individual Governors have met with school staff to monitor provision for Pupil Premium funding, Personal, Social & Health Education, Health & Safety and the role of the School Council.

### **Year 6 Leavers**

It is always with a mix of sadness and pride that we say goodbye to our Year 6 pupils and the class of 2018 will be missed. They have worked extremely hard to achieve a magnificent set of SATs results and have represented our school with maturity and responsibility.

The Governing Body would like to thank them for their positive attitude, their contribution to the life of our school and their support for the younger pupils in our school. They have been excellent role models and we wish them all the very best for the future.

### **Friends of Cotherstone School**

The Friends of the School have raised a considerable amount of money to support our pupils over the years. From ipads, cameras, school visits, transport, match funding to enable us to replace the interactive white board in Class 3 ... every single pupil in our school has benefitted from those "extras" that their fundraising has provided. A number of people wish to continue this work and support FOCS but no-one wants the responsibility of Chair. If anyone is willing to take on this role, please let us know. A meeting will be held in September to share ideas on the way forward, please keep an eye open for the date and share your views.

### **Donations**

We would like to extend our thanks to local organisations who have made generous donations to the school, including the Fun Weekend Committee, Romaldkirk Trust and Teesdale Action Partnership. Amongst other things, their donations have enabled us to have dinosaurs in school and some lovely new playground markings which the children will enjoy for years to come.

### **Thank you**

Cotherstone School is fortunate to enjoy help and support from parents and the community. The Governing Body would like to thank parents, volunteers and helpers who so freely give their time to support our pupils in a variety of ways.

**All that remains is for the Governors to wish pupils, staff, families and friends a happy Summer break. School reopens on the 5<sup>th</sup> September 2018.**

