

# Cotherstone Primary School

## Governors' Newsletter Autumn Term (1) 2016

### Welcome!

We would like to start by warmly welcoming those children and their families who have joined our school since the start of the new term. We hope you are settling well into your new routine. For those of you who are returning to school, we hope you had a very enjoyable summer break.

We anticipate another very busy year at Cotherstone School and we will continue to issue you with a *Governors' Newsletter* at the end of every half term. Through these newsletters we will keep you informed of developments that have and will be taking place in school.

For a small school we are extremely fortunate to have a very high level of support from our children's families, the wider community and the Friends of Cotherstone School. This support is invaluable especially as we continue to deal with the current economic climate.

### Who are the Governors?

Our Governing Body looks as follows:

Dr Jane Ayre (Chair)	Community Governor
Mrs Alison Lamb (Vice Chair)	Parent Governor
Mrs Angela Whiting	Parent Governor
Mrs Sally Baker	Parent Governor
Mrs Rachel Goldsborough	Parent Governor
Mr Peter Webb	Co-opted Governor
Dr Rebecca Jellis (Head Teacher)	Statutory Member
Councillor Richard Bell	Local Authority Appointed Governor
Vacancy	Community Governor
Mrs Karen Lind	Community Governor
Mrs Sandra Moorhouse	Community Governor
Mrs Alison Sabey	Non-teaching Staff Governor
Mr Richard Batchelor	Teaching Staff Governor

So you know who we are, all Governors have their names and photographs clearly displayed in the school reception area. If you have any issue that

you would like to raise with the Governing Body, or a comment on this newsletter, please contact Jane Ayre (Chair) at [ayretj@aol.com](mailto:ayretj@aol.com).

**Governor's Special Interest Areas:**

All Governors (with the exception of school staff) have been allocated with special interest areas from the school's curriculum as detailed below:

<b>Governor:</b>	<b>Special Interest(s) Areas:</b>
Dr Jane Ayre	English Safeguarding/Child Protection
Mrs Angela Whiting	PE CKC
Mrs Rachel Goldsborough	Design and Technology Art and Design Early Years
Mrs Alison Lamb	Music School Council
Mrs Sally Baker	More Able and Talented (MAT) Geography
Councillor Richard Bell	History Looked After Children
Vacancy	Science Health & Safety
Mr Peter Webb	Equality Community Cohesion Special Educational Needs (SEN)
Mrs Karen Lind	ICT Mathematics
Mrs Sandra Moorhouse	RE School Assemblies

**Governor Training:**

Jane Ayre and Alison Lamb will be attending "Implementing the PREVENT Duty in Schools" Governor Training programme on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2016 run by Durham County Council's Governor Support Unit. This training is to provide an understanding of the school's duty in preventing children and young people from being drawn into extremism while still allowing them to explore the issues of diversity and to understand that Britain is a multi-cultural society.

### Cool Kids

Next half term Cool Kids will be running the following activities

Tuesday - Christmas craft club - Make decorations and gifts for Xmas. Sessions commence from 8<sup>th</sup> November for 6 weeks. Maximum of 12 places so booking in advance is advisable.

Wednesday - Yoga - limited to 15 places.

Thursday - Dance

Please contact Claire or Alison to book your child's place.

### Message From Chair of Governors:

This will be the last *Governors' Newsletter* which I write as Chair of Governors. I've held this role for over six years and immensely enjoyed the challenges which we've faced during this time and am very proud of the school's achievements over those years. I will be standing down at the next Governing Body meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2016. I've made the decision to stand down now due to other personal commitments and also the need to ensure the school has succession planning in place to ensure it has as strong a Governing Body in place as possible to face the challenges that lie ahead. I will continue as a Governor until July 2018 and to contribute in every way that I can to Cotherstone Primary School's future. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all the Governors who I have worked with over the years and to the school's staff, in particular Dr Jellis, who have all been a joy to work with. The new Chair of Governors will be announced in the next *Governors' Newsletter* and I wish them every success in their new role.

Dr Jane Ayre.

Finally, we hope you have a very enjoyable half-term break!