



The Southwater Infant Academy

“Growing, Learning and Succeeding Together”

23 July 2019

Dear parents and carers

As we are approaching the end of the school year, the trustees thought we would write to let you know some of the things that we have been focusing on, and our plans moving forward.

Our Focus

A key focus over the last year has been to review the structure of our trustee body, to ensure we are well positioned over the coming years to support the academy. Our Members have now taken a step back from the day-to-day involvement of the trustee body, to enable them to focus on the longer-term strategy. Those of us previously known as ‘Governors’ have now all transitioned over to become ‘Trustees of The Southwater Infant Academy’ and we have welcomed two new trustees over the last academic year. All the names of our members and trustees can be found below, please do let us

know if you are interested in joining us, we can be contacted via our clerk, Adele Jones
clerktogovs@southwaterinfants.co.uk



Funding and Support

As with other schools and academies, a key concern is our ever-tighter budgets, with costs rising but funding unfortunately remaining the same! Our focus as trustees is to always ensure any expenditure is done to benefit the children, but we also could not operate without our valuable FSIA who have raised **£5974.45** and our PTFA who have raised in the region of **£4000** on behalf of the infant academy, as well as our generous parents who are willing sponsors, donors and supporters. Our Amazon Wishlist was launched this academic year <http://amzn.eu/7LFxzGp> and has resulted in a huge amount of valuable resources for the classrooms and we have been pleased to be able to replace the trim trail and climbing equipment in the paddock area.

2019/20- Mobile Classrooms, Curriculum & Attendance

For the 2019/20 academic year, we are continuing to work closely with West Sussex County Council on reviewing the mobile classrooms, which are coming to the end of their useful life. We are hoping to be able to replace these with new classrooms, but such a sizable project will need careful planning, particularly to minimise any disruption to our children. We will keep you updated with our progress on this.



We will also continue our work on looking at the curriculum, and the trustees have formed a committee specifically to support in this area. As well as the core subjects such as English and Maths, we feel it is important that our children are equipped with skills to support them in later life and want to ensure our curriculum offers a breadth of subjects and topics to engage the young and creative minds of our children. As part of this, we are pleased to be able to confirm that Forest Schools will be continuing for all our children next year.

One area that continues to concern us is attendance rates; the government requires us to achieve a 97.5% attendance rate and we are unable to authorise holidays during term time. We have noticed these numbers are continuing to dip and will be looking at improving this moving forward.

Teacher Assessment results and Staff News

Finally we were delighted with the strong results from our Year Two children, beating national averages, and with strong progress shown across the academy, particularly in reading. As ever, this can only be achieved with the hard work of our children and all the staff that work tirelessly to support them.

We are sad to have to say goodbye to Mrs Best, Mrs Stoneman, Miss Pyatt and Miss Breen but wish them well and are delighted to welcome Mrs Carter, Mrs Jull, Miss Clout, Miss Griffiths and Mrs Norman who start their new roles in September. We also wish Mrs Curran all the best with her upcoming maternity leave.



Wishing you all a wonderful summer break.

Clare Quinlisk

Parent trustee (written on behalf of the Board of Trustees).

Katharine Davis (Chair of trustees)
Christie Cavallo (Ex Officio)
Peter Buckley (Co-opted trustee)
Vicky Dilling (Staff trustee)
Clare Minall (Parent trustee)

Andy Harker (Vice Chair of trustees)
Chris Cotterill (Co-opted trustee)
Geoff Mortley (Staff trustee)
Aga Mason (Parent trustee)
Clare Quinlisk (Parent trustee)

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