

# Governor Newsletter



BUILDING TOGETHER  FOR A BETTER FUTURE

10th December 2018

St Chad's C.E. Primary School

Dear Parents,  
Well here we are with another termly instalment in to what we have been up to around the school.

Dave Humphries has recently stepped down as a governors of St Chad's, and with him having been involved in the governing team for close on 10 years, the school is indebted to him for his outstanding service and I am sure his contribution will be missed. I am assuming the role of Chair now and I just hope I can do the role justice.



I had the pleasure in visiting the National Arboretum, assisting with Miss Steele's class. As always, the pupils behaved impeccably and made some excellent observations as we walked through the different areas. It really is an excellent place to visit and I am sure that for families who have lost loved ones in any of the wars it is nice to see their service to our country remembered.

On a similar theme I was also a guest at Chesterton Community Sports College for a remembrance evening which involved the four Chesterton primary schools together with some pupils from the Sports College also. There were some excellent performances and I also learnt a great deal about World War I as I certainly did not know how many perished just hours before the war ended, despite the surrender having already being announced. Sometimes getting involved around the school really does educate me as there are plenty of topics being taught nowadays which were not taught in my day.

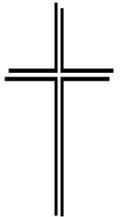
We enter a busy time for pupils and parents with Christmas productions and parties in addition to the learning activities and I would like to thank the staff and helpers for all their help in making these events possible.

Merry Christmas to you all!

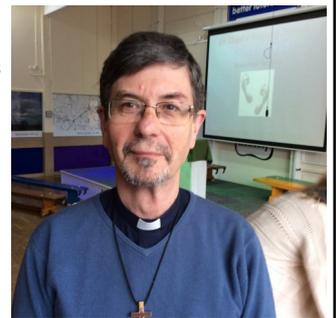
Colin Higginson (Chair of Governors)

## PRAYER

Lord, we thank you for the Governors of our school. The work that they carry out in Your name, they do without reward, and yet they give all they can to make our school the wonderful place that it is. We ask that You give them wisdom and compassion as they make decisions for St Chad's. Amen



Dear everyone,  
Just in case it had escaped your attention, Christmas is coming and with it the end of term. Here at St Chad's we are celebrating all that the children have so far learned. Their teachers have worked hard to achieve this. As the children have learned, so they have seen 'the light' shone



on many things that they did not understand before. We rejoice in that fact, and in this respect St. Chad's is no different from any other school. But we know that St Chad's IS a different type of school. With Christmas fast approaching, many of us will hear the account of the wise men that followed a star which led them to Jesus. The star showed them where Jesus was, and that little child grew up to become 'the light of the world'. At St. Chad's, we want to be like the star and show the children who Jesus is. They can then make up their own minds and decide if they want to follow His light or not. How do we manage to do this I wonder? One of the responsibilities that Foundation Governors have, in particular, is to try and judge the impact of our efforts as a church school and our Christina Distinctiveness. Each diocese in the country has a body known as SIAMS (which stands for "Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools") that sets out certain guidelines that are meant to help us in this task. One or more representatives of this group carry out an inspection of all church schools, rather like OFSTED does, and then gives us a rating- in 2014, we received an outstanding rating. I am pleased to say that after a recent set of interviews that myself and Reverend Sharon held with children from the whole School, it is clear that the children are really taking on board the spiritual values that as a Church of England school we are trying to teach- and it was such fun talking with, and listening to the enthusiastic children as they pointed out the School Values and their links with the Bible. This was so encouraging to us all, because sometimes it is this side of life that gets swallowed up in the other demands that are put on us. As a Christian, I firmly believe that we need these values, lived out especially by Jesus, to guide us through the tricky decisions we have to make in life. So, I hope and pray that this Christmas will be a time of tremendous excitement and joy as we celebrate the light of knowledge that explains things around us, and the light of the star that shows us Jesus. Happy CHRISTmas everyone! Reverend Simon Boxall (Foundation Governor)

**Values**  
Independence  
Empathy  
Belonging  
British  
Liberty  
Democracy  
Respect  
Commitment  
Kindness  
School  
Tolerance  
Law



Hi everyone! I would simply like to introduce myself as a new Foundation Governor for St Chad's CE School. My name is Reverend Sharon Greensmith and I am a 'Potter born and bred!' I am married with 2 sons, the youngest of which is currently at University of Birmingham in his first year studying Politics and Economics. My secular background has been in nursing for the past 30 years until I gave it all up to be a full-time priest in July this year. I have been Ordained into the Priesthood within the Church of

England for the last 4 years. Originally I continued nursing full-time and undertook Ordained Ministry on a part-time basis but God's call on my life to minister for him full-time was overwhelmingly strong and so at the moment I am serving a 2nd Curacy with Reverend Simon Boxall at Holy Trinity Church, Chesterton and St Chad's Church, Red Street until July 2020, after which I will be applying for my own parish to serve (hopefully!).

This is my first time as a serving school governor but I have been involved in my children's schools as both volunteer and parent ambassador. In my previous parish there were no primary schools to work alongside, so this is all very exciting as developing my skills in school ministry is one area I needed to do as part of my 2nd Curacy. I am very passionate about people's well-being and being available to offer pastoral support to both adults and children when needed. I have excellent listening skills, care and compassion for both children and adults alike. I am involved in Safeguarding training for Lichfield Diocese and am a voluntary trainer.

I am really looking forward to working alongside the rest of the governing team and St Chad's leadership team, not forgetting all the staff and pupils at the school, for together with Jesus we can build a better future! Wishing everyone a happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year. Reverend Sharon Greensmith (Foundation Governor)

Hi everyone!

As planned at the end of last term and since our last Governor newsletter, I spent a wonderful morning with Mrs Kirkham and the Eco Council planting new shrubs at Chesterton Parish Church. The weather was glorious and we enjoyed working with Reverend Simon and the team from Chesterton's One Stop Shop, to brighten up the flower bed at the edge of the church grounds on the High Street! A huge well done to the children of last year's Eco Council for their hard work!

And then at the beginning of the Autumn term, I had the pleasure of spending time with the newly appointed House Captains and Head Boy and Girl as they commenced in their new roles within our school. Mr Dobberson talked the new pupil leadership team through their responsibilities including lunchtime supervision, playtimes, parents evenings, external visitor tours and running house competitions and I cannot wait to see them grow into their new roles and develop their leadership skills. Well done to all of you for being selected to represent the school and your respective Houses!

Finally, on a personal note, unfortunately I have not been able to be as active in school this term and have had to miss attending some assemblies and school trips as planned. And so I cannot believe that we are heading for the end of term already, with the next few weeks filled with many lovely festive celebrations.

Wishing you and yours a wonderful happy time this Christmas! Louise Hunt (Parent Governor)



Dear parents,

Well, I can't believe we are nearly at the end of the first full term, where has the time gone! This term I was lucky enough to join the KS2 children on a trip to the National Arboretum. I was so proud of our children; they were very extremely well-behaved, very respectful of their surroundings



and they were eager to learn about each of the memorials we visited. A member of the RAF who was attending a special centenary ceremony at the chapel that day commented of how lovely and polite our children were. It was such a wonderful day and I am thankful that I was able to share the experience. Continuing with the remembrance theme, I was also invited to watch our Y5 & 6 pupils participate in the CCSC remembrance concert. Wow, what a performance! Our children looked very smart, they sang beautifully and the audience were in awe of their compelling creative piece about the war. I was so proud of them, a very well done to everyone involved. I wish you all a peaceful Christmas and a prosperous New Year. Zoe Comley (Parent Governor)



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