

# Governor Newsletter Worlebury St. Paul's Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School

February 2015

## ***New Year, new vision, new head teacher***

You will now be aware that Mrs. Quick has decided to retire at the end of the summer. Over the last ten years she has transformed and grown the school from a small First School to a successful, over-subscribed and highly regarded full Primary School. It will be sad to say goodbye, but we must now embrace this opportunity to look forward.

## ***Vision***

The governing body met the first week of January to agree a new vision for our school. Having a clear vision about what is important for our school is vital in order to attract applicants who share our vision for the head teacher role.

There was a wonderful discussion about what makes Worlebury so special and what we want our school to look and feel like in the future.

There are already significant expectations for schools regarding pupil attainment and progress from the government. Teachers are now on performance related pay and the percentages of pupils expected to reach certain levels is increasing for schools year on year. It is right that expectations are high for each and every one of our pupils. However, as the governing body of a Church school, there was a strong feeling that we wanted our vision to focus on our pupils' whole school experience as individuals and future citizens. We want our

success to be measured not only by league tables and Ofsted grades, but by the culture and atmosphere of the school. How people feel when they walk in, how it feels for people to work at our school and the whole experience of being a Worlebury pupil. We want a school where individuals, their participation and doing their best, whatever that may mean for each individual really matters. A school where how we treat others is seen as important and a reflection of our Christian ethos.

The Bishop of the Diocese of Bath and Wells recently wrote to church schools with the Diocesan Board of Education's vision statement which is based on John 10:10, "That they may have life, life in all its fullness". This proved to be key to governors' discussions and wording

***Our vision for Worlebury St Paul's is to create a school community where everyone participates, excels and has a love of learning; where we respect ourselves, one another and live life to the full, helping others to do the same.***

we have chosen to include in our new vision. We have consulted with staff and are now excited to share our new vision with you, the wider school community who are also part of our vision.

In the ever-changing world of education, it is good practise to regularly review an organisation's vision. Rather than wait until next January, we will do this in September once

*Any governor can be contacted via the school office, or you can email the Chair of Governors [cofg@staff.worlebury.n-somerset.sch.uk](mailto:cofg@staff.worlebury.n-somerset.sch.uk)*

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the new head has started so it can become an annual task at the start of the academic year.

## **Recruitment**

With support and guidance from the Local Authority and Diocese, governors are now beginning the recruitment process to find the right person to be our next head teacher. Now we have the vision we want the new head to deliver, we need to agree a job description and person specification, then we can advertise the post. We will keep you updated on developments when we have news to share.

The timeline we are currently working to is:

**January-February** – agreement by governors of the job description, person specification, advert and recruitment pack.

**Last week of February** – advertisement placed in local and national publications.

**23<sup>rd</sup> March** – application closing date.

**20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> April** – interviews.

Timing is tight because there are certain dates that current head teachers and deputy head teachers must resign by for them to be able to start at our school in September. If you have any comments or suggestions regarding the type of person or the head teacher's role you would like the governing body to be aware of, please either speak to any governor, leave information marked for the governors in the office or email the Chair using the email at the bottom of the first page.

## ***New Year, new governor***

We are delighted to welcome Kelly Furlong to the governing body as a Parent Governor.



Kelly has a son in Year 4 and a daughter due to start Reception in September. She has been a secondary school teacher for 14 years, previously working at Backwell School and currently teaching part-time at Weston College.

We also say thank you and goodbye to Caroline Matthews who was a Foundation Governor.

As detailed in the November 2014 governor newsletter, we still have vacancies on the governing body. Please get in touch with the Chair if you would like to find out more.

2015 is going to be a busy and exciting year for Worlebury St. Paul's. It will also be sad when we have to say good bye to Mrs Quick. Nearer the time we will be arranging her a proper send-off and thank you, so if you have any ideas or suggestions on how to make this special, do please get in touch.

With best wishes for the New Year,

Worlebury St. Paul's Governing Body