

Governor Newsletter

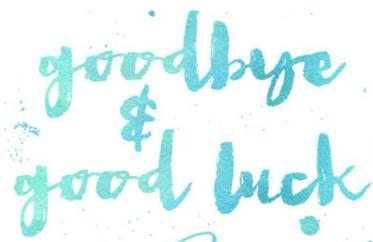
SIR JOHN BARROW SCHOOL

July 2017

End of Summer Term

At this end of this term Mrs Dearden will be leaving SJB to take up a new teaching post. We would like to thank her for all her commitment and support to the school particularly within sports and games. Mrs Dearden will be greatly missed at SJB.

Miss Sadler is also leaving at the end of this term, Miss Sadler has been a great asset to the school, especially in the EYFS department. She will be greatly missed, we wish her well in her next role.



And finally goodbye to all our Year 6 leavers, we hope your time spent at SJB has been memorable and we wish you the very best of luck in your new secondary schools!

SATs Results 2017

Hot off the press before our Full Governing Body meeting last week we are delighted that overall, our children are performing above the national average for the whole school for reading, writing, Spelling Punctuation & Grammar and maths. The proportion of SJB pupils achieving the expected level at end of Key Stages is above the national average – this is an improved performance on last year's results.

We would like to congratulate all of our Year 6 pupils on their extremely hard work this year, and for their exemplary attitude during SATs week!

Sports Mark Gold Award

SJB first registered for the Sports Mark scheme in 2014. Since then the school has gone from strength to strength progressing through the levels to build on our sports provision and participation and this year we are pleased to announce we have achieved the Gold award! This award reflects the progress and achievements within sports at SJB, everyone should feel very proud.



The sport leaders and coordinators have worked very hard to increase the range of sports on offer to try and encourage healthier lifestyles and have increased the number of extra-curricular clubs available. At SJB, 'values' are placed at the heart of PE and Sport so the focus is not just placed on success but on: determination, self-belief, teamwork, passion, respect and honesty. A big thank-you to Mrs Hartley, Mrs Parker and Mrs Dearden who have been so instrumental in leading this.

Vacancy for Parent Governor

We still have a vacancy for a parent governor. Details for how to apply can be found on the school website under the 'School letters' section. Or please contact Chair of Governors, Janet Heffernan for an informal chat.

Child Protection and Safeguarding

SJB has placed an emphasis on Child Protection and Safeguarding this term. The School arranged for an independent audit of SJB staff, systems and procedures by Kym Allen, an independent consultant and specialist in this area. The Inclusion Committee has also been carrying out a detailed Governors Audit. This has involved talking to staff, investigating the premises and the systems in place, and the paperwork and procedures the school completes when considering child protection matters.

I am sure that you are aware of all the impressive and detailed work the school has done recently on 'e-safety' / staying safe online. Both recent audits have looked in great detail at such things as; listening to the wishes of the children; the physical security of the school and of the children; the level of personal checks in respect of everyone who accesses the school; the policies and systems in place at school and how they function; how well our staff are trained in child protection procedures, and how they all work together.

I am delighted to report that both audits show in detail the excellent level of expertise our school has in this vital area. We continue to be proud of all the excellent work our staff do on a daily basis in keeping our children both safe and happy.

Policy Review

Last term we updated you on our Policy Review which is an ongoing task undertaken by the Governing Body, to make sure that the School's Policies reflect SJB ethos and are compliant with legislation.

This term we had **five different policies concerning school Finance** to review – helping us to ensure good value for money in school, financial probity and compliance with data protection laws. We carry out spot checks to ensure that our policies are followed.

We also looked at how our **Behaviour Policy** is working in school. Behaviour is something which we monitor during every Governor school visit, but this term we also received feedback on this from other Headteacher's who have been part of SJB monitoring visits, as well as from interviews with pupils. This evidence added to our own view of behaviour at SJB, is that the Behaviour Policy is effective in supporting a good learning environment, where pupils can take full advantage of opportunities in school.

National Governors' Association Award

At the end of last term we announced that our Governing Body had been selected as finalists in the National Governance Association: Awards for Outstanding Governance 2017. The award ceremony at the House of Commons in May was unfortunately postponed and is now planned to be hosted 5 September 2017. We will let you know how we get on!



Meet the Governor: Izzy Roberts

I have been working in Ulverston as a PCSO since July 2016 and was immediately appointed as SJB's Police point of contact. Since then I have assisted on School trips, given the pupils safety and awareness talks and even participated in lollipop lady duties.

When not in work, most of my free time is taken up by dancing! I co-own Spotlight School of Dance in Barrow and also teach at Dance Tazia in Dalton. I have danced since the age of 6 and continue to take part in local competitions and shows.



Izzy Roberts, Co-opted Governor