



St Bridget's C of E Primary School

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Together Everyone Achieves More

10-11-16

Dear Parents,

School Recognition

National Support School
designated by



National College for
Teaching & Leadership

The staff at St. Bridget's and myself have been selected for a top role supporting schools in challenging circumstances. I am one of more than 80 Headteachers to be appointed to the role of National Leader of Education (NLE) in the latest recruitment round. NLE's along with staff in their school - designated a National Support School (NSS) - use their success and professionalism to provide additional leadership capability in other schools. NLEs are deployed to suit the needs of each school needing support. The type of support provided is flexible and can sometimes involve NLEs becoming Executive Headteachers.

Roger Pope, Chair of the National College for Teaching and Leadership, said

"The aim of national leaders of education is to drive improvement in underperforming schools and to spread educational excellence everywhere."

In essence this means that the work that my staff and I have completed over the last three years has now been officially recognised and will be funded by the National College of Teaching and Learning. In the last three years I have supported the leadership in five schools, trained 6 trainee Headteachers who went on to gain Headships, countless students many of whom gained outstanding judgements for teaching and a considerable amount of demonstration lessons to visiting Headteacher and teachers to disseminate effective practice.

Staffing News

In order to cover Mr Brown's departure at Christmas I have agreed with the Governors to restructure the leadership team so that Mrs Johnson and Mr Neal will share his duties for the remainder of the academic year. Mrs Johnson has already started working with Mr Brown to ensure that there is a smooth transition for children with special educational needs. This is an exciting time for the school and we are fortunate that we have the capacity, knowledge and skills that we can grow our own leaders.

Year 2 - Miss O'Mahoney will be covering Mr Brown's teaching commitment in Year 2. Miss O'Mahoney already knows St. Bridget's as she completed her training with us last year and received outstanding grades for her work.

Year 4 - I am pleased to confirm that Miss Hubbard will be returning to St. Bridget's to cover Mrs Neal's maternity leave. We are fortunate that Miss Hubbard also completed her training with us and received outstanding grades for her time with us.

PA News - CHRISTMAS BAZAAR 25th NOVEMBER 5-7.30pm

It's not long until the fair, so we would love your support. Please take note of these important collection dates for donations (**which will take place inside the school gates at school drop-off**) towards some of the Christmas stalls:

Monday 14th November - Chocolate & Bottles - for the Tombolas. Bottles of any kind - wine/bubbly/soft drinks/sauces/bubble bath etc. Or/ and any chocolates - boxes of, bars of etc.

The children wear **non-uniform** to remind them to donate!

Friday 18th November - £1 (for Children In Need) and Teddies - as many as you would reasonably like to part with- For the Teddy Tombola. The children wear **non-uniform** to remind them to donate!

Many thanks for all your support. To keep up-to-date of anything happening with the PA and connect with other parents and school events, please like the Facebook page 'St Bridgets Parents Association Group'

A Brief Message from our new Chair of Governors

My name is Sue Darby. I have succeeded Nick Ledingham as Chair of Governors for St Bridget's CE School. I would like to thank Mr Ledingham for all of his help in preparing me for the role over the last year whilst I was Vice Chair.

I moved to West Kirby in 2011 to live nearer to my son and daughter in law and their 3 children. I had been visiting the school prior to living here because my grandchildren attend St Bridget's School. I had been to see them performing in various assemblies and plays. The house we moved to is within easy walking distance of St Bridget's Church so that is where my husband and I decided to worship. When a post came up to become a church foundation governor for the school I applied. My qualifications and experiences were accepted by the Chester Diocese, the Parish Church Council and the Headteacher and I became a Foundation Governor in 2013.

Before retiring I had been a dental surgeon for 34 years both in the NHS and private sector. In 1990 I started a new dental practice which I ran until my retirement.

So who are the governors?

We are a group of dedicated volunteers from various walks of life with the different skills and qualifications needed to perform the governor duties. Our present governing board consists of 6 parent governors voted into the position by the parents together with a Staff governor, the Head Teacher governor, 4 Foundation Governors including the Church Rector, a governors' clerk and 3 co-opted governors.

Their profiles can be seen on the school web site.

What is the role of the governors?

The governor Handbook 2015 says:

In all types of schools, governing bodies should have a strong focus on three core strategic functions:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
- Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance management of staff;
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure it's money is well spent.

Notices to Parents

Parking around School

Each month I am contacted by concerned parents about parking around school. I ask that we all remember that the safety of children around the local area and school is all of our responsibility. Please do not drive onto the school grounds to either drop off or pick up children.

Lunchboxes – Grapes

As a school my catering team cut all grapes in half as they can be a choking hazard. If you provide grapes for your child's pack lunch we would ask that you cut them in half before sending them into school in your child's lunchbox.

Updated details

You would have received an email recently asking you to make sure that we have up to date contact details for your child. If you need to make any amendments to the information we hold in school please ask at the school office for a data sheet which the amendments can be made on. It is very important that all emergency contact details are kept up to date.

Dates

Please check the school calendar on the website.

Yours sincerely,

Neil Le Feuvre

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