

## MEMBERS OF THE LOCAL GOVERNING BODY OF YOUR SCHOOL

### Parent governors

- David Bradley
- Nigel Sanderson
- Kim Smith

### Staff governor

- Sarah Jenkinson

### Co-opted governors

- Rebecca Barker (Vice-chair)
- Julie Turner
- Joanne Cook

### Local Authority governor

- Liz Buxton (Chair)

### Executive Headteacher

- Jane Fearnley

### Clerk to the governing body

- Stacey Hall

Greasbrough Primary School is part  
of the Willow Tree Academy.

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Greasbrough  
Primary School



# GOVERNING BODY

# NEWSLETTER

## For Parents and Carers

School year 2015-16  
No 2  
January 2016

## Dear Parents and Carers

Happy New Year! Governors hope that you had an enjoyable time over the festive season. We were very impressed with the range of events organised for the children in the run up to Christmas and enjoyed attending some of them. We hope all parents and carers enjoyed these events too. This is always a busy time for staff and it is to their credit that the main focus throughout the run-up to Christmas was still providing high quality teaching and learning experiences for the children, often with a festive theme which the children spoke about enthusiastically.

We were delighted to welcome Kim Smith to the local governing body as a new parent governor. Being a governor is a challenging role with significant responsibility, but we are confident that Kim brings very valuable experiences, skills and knowledge to this work and hope she enjoys her new role.

At our last meeting we discussed home learning and in particular feedback from parents/carers on how this was working. Staff have made some changes and hope that everyone is now used to this, but governors encourage any parents who are

unclear about aspects of home-learning, to speak to their child's teacher about this. We appreciate that some parents are not too keen on home-learning activities, but we do ask everyone to support their children with this as it is a requirement that homework is set. Staff tell us that the number of parents who are reading at home with their child has increased - thank you very much for this which is a hugely valuable way to spend just a little time each day and really does make a difference to children's progress.

Staff report that there are still some families who could be entitled to Free School Meals (FSM), that do not apply. Perhaps this is because all children in KS1 now routinely have lunch? Please can we encourage anyone who thinks they may be entitled to this or other benefits, to apply as this also brings significant additional funding to school. As costs increase, this is money that the school really needs to continue to provide a wide range of high quality staff, experiences, and resources. Please speak to Mrs Jenkinson or office staff if you think you may be entitled to apply - thank you.

**Best wishes from your Local Governing Body at Greasbrough Primary School**

## WHAT ELSE HAS BEEN HAPPENING?

- **Attendance** - governors received the required report on attendance and were pleased that this remains high. However, we were sorry to hear that a number of parents had to receive letters when their child fell into the '*persistent absence*' category. This is calculated on the number of teaching sessions lost, *not* the number of days, and the level is set by the government. Please can everyone do their very best to ensure children attend regularly as missing school when children are not genuinely too poorly to attend, affects their progress, much more than you might think, even if it is just one lost day!
- **2014-15 Attainment** - governors were delighted with the final report on 2015 pupil results. This showed that many children had made remarkable progress, especially in the last 2 years. Governors are required to make comparisons with national outcomes and Greasbrough performed at or above these in many areas - well done to everyone who has contributed to this achievement, and as mentioned earlier - this includes YOU!