



GOV'NEWS – AUTUMN 2017

No sooner do we come back for a new school year in September, than we find the end of term rapidly approaching, and the Christmas break. Maybe we should also include “time flies” in the school motto.

OFSTED outcome – at the end of the summer term we were only able to report that our OFSTED inspection had gone well. As I'm sure you will know, the outcome of our inspection rated us as a **Good School!** We are delighted with this outcome, which reflects the hard work and application, led by the Head and his leadership team, through the teachers and teaching support staff, the back office and site support staff, the wonderful children on Barnes Farm Junior School, and last but not least the school governors. But we will not rest on our laurels in ensuring that the pupils at Barnes Farm Juniors continue to enjoy and excellent education and we seek to move the school onwards to outstanding.



Governing Body Membership – We did see some changes to the governing body at the end of last year:-



Lisa Luxton, a parent governor came to the end of her elected term with us –many thanks to Lisa who was a committed and dedicated governor who will be sorely missed

Liz Wright moved from parent governor, as her elected term had expired, to co-opted governor, and we are delighted to retain services and expertise on the governing body

Elaine Leonard, as reported in the last newsletter was leaving Barnes Farm Junior School

Confused? and we're only half way through.

This left us with 1 co-opted governor vacancy and 2 parent governor vacancies. We advertised via your school newsletter for the latter, and are pleased to welcome:-

- **Jordon Lau** as one of the new parent governors, elected unopposed, and
- **Juliet Vickers** from our teaching staff who has been elected to the co-opted vacancy

This leaves us with one parent vacancy which we will re-advertise and seek to fill in the new year. Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you are interested in filling the position, or would just like more information on what being a school governor means.

The single plan – evolution - The name to a degree pays homage to the successful plan which saw us to OFSTED Good rating – but this is now split into 3 to better focus and bring continued successful outcomes for our children. This school year we will be monitoring



- Single Plan 1 improving “Science and Writing”
- Single Plan 2 improving “Moving on in Maths”
- Single Plan 3 improving “Reporting wider achievements more fully”

Each of these plans has dedicated teaching staff leading within the school, and dedicated governors have been tasked with monitoring each plan through the year to ensure that we are meeting or exceeding the plan objectives.

In addition to the above we will continue to have dedicated governors/monitoring visits re:-

- Safeguarding
- Health and Safety
- Pupil Premium monitoring visit
- Regular Head Teacher/Chair of Governor meetings
- All committee and full governing body meetings.

If you have any questions/issues with any of the above you can contact me via the school.

Multi Academy Trust (MAT) update - thank you to all of you who were able to attend the Parent consultation meeting. I hope that you found this of benefit in helping to understand the benefits and pitfalls of the proposed route. We will be coming to “Gateway 2” in mid-January 2018. In simple terms this is the point of no return. If we, as a school agree to proceed at this point, then we will become part of the Chelmsford Learning Partnership – but we will still be Barnes Farm Junior School.

Parent Consultations in January 2018 (for the first time) we offer you all an opportunity to meet with one of us – you can book at the same time as your child’s appointment. We are keen to further develop our engagement with parents in any way we can.

Finally – Thanks you, once again for supporting our school and your children in another successful term of learning. We have leading attendance figures to be proud of, and my usual sign off in thanking our staff, the Head, teachers, teaching assistants, lunch time staff, office staff and site manager for their tireless hard work so that our children can **“aim high, and fly higher”**- I don’t think I can fit **“time flies”** in there anywhere!!



And finally, I, on behalf of the governors and myself, wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Steve Andrews
Chair of Governors