



Monkshouse Primary School

www.monkshouse.lincs.sch.uk



Governors' Newsletter



December 2012



Welcome to our first newsletter of this school year. We hope all the children have settled in well and are enjoying all the different lessons and activities.

Over the past months some of the Governors have been spending time with the children at the school. Mrs Jordan has been taking some assemblies; Mrs Robson and Mrs Jordan are coming in to hear readers and help with numeracy lessons. As well as supporting the children this gives governors an insight into the teaching and learning within school and is enjoyable for everyone. If any parents are considering volunteering we would recommend it as the school is very welcoming and great satisfaction can be gained from seeing the children progress.

We are continuing to work hard with our various committee and monitoring activities, to "support and challenge" the teaching staff, to review the aims and objectives of the school, to agree, monitor and review policies, priorities, and to ensure we are monitoring and evaluating progress against targets. Mr Lilley also has regular meetings with Mrs Goodsell to keep up to date with the busy school life.

Please refer to the school website for all the latest news and useful information. In today's modern age of technology, we would encourage you to use Parentmail. This not only reduces paper waste but saves money to be utilised more effectively on your child's educational needs. No more lost or forgotten letters if you receive them directly via email. Please see the school office for further details and to sign up.

We have several new members of the governing body and they have each given a brief introduction and welcome...

Mrs Betty Jordan, Community Governor

I have been a Governor of Monkshouse Primary School for just over a year now. Prior to my invitation to join the Governing Body, I had been Headteacher at St Norbert's Primary School Spalding. Now retired, I spend my time visiting my children and grandchildren in Wales. I enjoy reading, music and travel.

I feel honoured to have been chosen for the role of Governor and have been made very welcome by all staff, governors and our lovely children.

All the Governors have been linked to a different subject. My link is with the teaching of Literacy. I meet with the subject leader throughout the year and we discuss the children's progress in reading, writing and phonics. We also look at how we can improve the children's learning and what resources we may need to purchase to encourage a love of reading and learning throughout the school. Literacy is a subject close to my heart and I enjoy coming into school on a Tuesday afternoon to hear Yr 1 children read.

I am very much looking forward to continuing working alongside staff and children for the next three years. I see my role as supporting and enabling all staff to deliver an excellent education to all of our children.

I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and peaceful New Year.

Mark Willis, LEA Governor

Hi! My name is Mark Willis and I am a LEA Governor at Monkshouse. I joined the Royal Air Force in 1983 as a caterer, but more recently I have been employed within the military education sphere and I currently serve on the leadership team at RAF Cranwell. I am married to Lorraine and my daughter Hannah attends Monkshouse Primary School. I volunteered to become a School Governor because I wanted to understand the workings of my daughter's school and I also thought I may be able to bring some of the skills I have learnt through my career to the Governing Body.

Kevin Pallister, Community Governor

I am a local Solicitor and a member of The Salvation Army. I have been a Governor at a nearby Independent School for some years. I have conducted assemblies at Monkshouse in recent years and am very pleased to have a role as a member of the Governing Body.

Alistair Main, Parent Governor

I serve as a parent governor with my oldest son having started reception this year. Aside from 3 years at University in Leeds I have lived in or around Spalding all my life. My day job is as a manager at Duncan & Toplis Chartered Accountants here in Spalding and outside of work I can often be found playing hockey for Spalding, playing bass guitar at South Holland Community Church or enjoying times with my family.

Mrs Jo Bembridge, Parent Governor, has very recently joined the Governing Body – we all welcome Jo.

Finally, on behalf of the Governors, I would like to thank all staff, parents and pupils for their continuous commitment and support.

I would personally like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

Simon Lilley, Chair of Governing Body