



# Monkhouse Primary School



## Governors' Newsletter - May 2013

### Welcome to the second Governors' newsletter

#### New Governor

In the spring term we welcomed Mrs Bembridge to her first meeting of the Governing Body as a parent governor. Below is a brief statement about her background and connections with the school.

*So far three of my four children have attended Monkhouse School and the fourth will follow shortly. During this time I have learnt a lot about the school and am now currently chairperson of the PTA for the second time.*

*Having worked in class voluntarily for the past year whilst studying for my qualification I have realised how difficult and involved it is to manage a school to a high standard and hope that as a parent governor I will be able to make a positive contribution on behalf of myself and other parents with children at Monkhouse School.*

#### Pupil Interviews

During this spring term some Governors interviewed a selection of pupils across the school who indicated that:

- They felt happy, safe and secure at school and could speak easily to adults if they were having any problems. The Peer mediation system that was introduced during the term by Mrs Baker and Mrs Smith assisted them when they had any difficulties. This is where trained pupils assist any children who feel they need someone to talk to. Governors are happy with this as it gives children access to both adult and peer support
- They enjoyed their learning and felt confident enough to discuss ways of improving their performance, asking for help where necessary
- They were not afraid to make mistakes they are able to set personalised targets to improve their learning in discussion with their teacher
- They enjoy the range of after school activities
- They are aware of e.safety and the fact that the school blocks any sites that they should not use.

## **Role of Governing Body**

There are currently 14 representatives on our Governing Body, made up of Local Authority nominations, people from the community, parents and staff.

The role of the Governing Body is:

- To support the Headteacher and the Senior Leadership Team in setting long term plans for school
- To support and challenge the school in its efforts to provide the best possible education for your children
- To hold the school to account for the decisions that it makes and be accountable ourselves for the way we conduct ourselves.

In addition to the termly meetings of the full Governing Body there are also Governors' sub-committees, Governor visits, and Governor participation in school events and activities.

The sub-committees are:

- Premises
- Curriculum
- Standards Finance

These smaller committees focus on the everyday running of the school and work closely with the head and staff to resolve issues, agree policies and make recommendations to the full governing body.

## **Termly Information**

Meetings were also held between all governors and staff to discuss progress and future plans for the school relating to specific subjects or areas. This term we will be involved in the development of the School Improvement Plan which outlines all future priorities for the school.

We can report that our effective data tracking system ensures that pupil progress is carefully monitored and systems put in place immediately if any pupil falls behind. It is pleasing to note that the majority of our pupils are making good progress to date in reading, writing and maths.

Attendance is improving; however we would ask that parents try not to take their children out of school during the school term as it affects progress.

As you are aware we have a very successful school Nursery. At this present time we still have one or two spaces available for September. If you know of any families new to the area please ask them to contact the school office to arrange a visit.

## And finally.....

So much about the school continues to make the governing body proud. We want all our children to continue to enjoy school, be happy and to find things in which they can excel, and not just academically although we never forget how important that is. Music is especially strong at the school and this was very evident at the Easter Tea event where one of our Governors had great difficulty selecting the winners of the Easter Bonnet parade – judge for yourself!!



**Thanks to all of the parents and friends who support so many of the school events and activities.**

**Further information about the Governing Body can be found on the school website  
[www.monkhouse.lincs.sch.uk](http://www.monkhouse.lincs.sch.uk)**