

Paganel Governors' Update (4)

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Dear parents, carers and friends of Paganel

This is a slightly belated newsletter from governors this term but we wanted to update you all on progress on a number of fronts.

Governing body

Firstly, you will recall that, at the end of last term, we had to change the way the governing body was made up. All governors stood down and we asked for nominations for parent and staff governors. Our site manager, Mr Grinham, was appointed as the staff governor, so he will continue in the role he has held for a number of years. There were four nominations for parent governors and, as there were four vacancies, these people were deemed elected:

- Martyn Sargeant (Oliver – Y6 and Amy – Y4).
- Rob McGettrick (Milly – Y4 and Charlie Y1LW).
- Gail Atkins (Sydney - Y2P).
- Michelle Watson (Daniel – Y1J).

The other governors are Sara Harris (local authority), Tony Bottle (co-opted) and Mr Shufflebottom (as head teacher). At the first meeting of the academic year, the governors elected Martyn Sargeant as chair and Rob McGettrick as vice-chair.

All parents and carers are welcome to raise issues or concerns with the governors at any time. The best way to do this is to speak to one of the staff or parent governors in the playground or to email governors@pagannelschool.net.

Ofsted

Whilst we were disappointed with the outcome of the Ofsted inspection, it did highlight for us a number of areas for improvement. The governors and particularly the staff team have been working very hard to address those issues, which form the basis of our post-Ofsted action plan. In particular we have focused on:

Ensuring the quality of teaching throughout the school is consistently at least good and increasingly outstanding.

Providing good quality education that stretches children with special educational needs to help them make the best progress possible.

Developing the leadership of the school through the senior team.

Improving attainment for all children in Maths.

Improving handwriting and the quality of presentation.

Making sure that the marking of children's work consistently serves to help each child progress in their learning.

We have been well supported by St Mary's Teaching School Alliance and colleagues from other schools, and I'm pleased to report that we are making good progress in a number of areas. When a school is judged as 'requiring improvement', an Ofsted/HMI inspector will make a follow-up visit within a few months of the original inspection. We're expecting that visit any day and almost certainly before Christmas. We hope that the inspector will affirm the direction the school has taken and the progress made to date, and will obviously report back their findings.

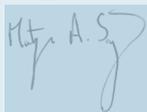
School expansion

I'm sure, like me, that you will have been keeping a watching eye on progress with the building works every time you come into school. It is good to be able to report from the most recent meeting with the contractors and council that everything is currently on schedule. Children in early years have been using the new facilities for a couple of months now (phase one); shortly after Christmas we should be able to use the new entrance and the office team will be moving to their new accommodation (phase two); and work will then begin on redeveloping the current office facilities as a purpose-built resource base (phase three).

As part of both our expansion plan and Ofsted response we are looking at the staff requirements for SEN. We are still seeking to recruit a specialist SEN teacher for our resource base and we are currently in the process of recruiting for an Assistant Headteacher with responsibility for leading SEN/inclusion provision across the school. In future, as the school continues to expand, we will also be appointing a second Assistant Headteacher to take the lead on raising standards and achievement across the school. These posts are in addition to the teaching staff we will need for the extra classes.

I hope the newsletter is helpful in keeping you informed about key issues at Paganel. If there's anything you'd like to hear about in future newsletters, please do contact the governors at governors@pagannelschool.net.

Kind regards



Martyn Sargeant
Chair of Governors
On behalf of the Governing Body