



Tolleshunt D'Arcy St Nicholas Cof E (VA) Primary School

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Executive Head teacher: Mr M. Walsh

Head of School: Mrs L. Eastbrook

Governor Newsletter December 2017

Once again I am able to report that there has been a great deal of positive change at Tolleshunt D'Arcy School during this first term of the new leadership structure with Mr Walsh as Executive Head and Mrs Eastbrook as Head of School.

Visitors to school, including educational professionals and school improvement advisors, have been commenting on the changes within the school and how inviting it is for children and adults, and how these changes are having a positive impact on children's wellbeing and progress at school.

Many of these positive changes are attributable to the new leadership team. On our visits to school and when talking to staff, children and visitors, Governors have seen lots of evidence of the success of the link with Kelvedon and will be working with school leadership and with Kelvedon to ensure that this continues beyond the current academic year. There is a clear commitment from both schools that this school improvement partnership will continue to ensure the sustainability of the school improvement we are now seeing.

It is also important to recognise the support and commitment to the school from the longer-standing members of staff, both teachers and support staff, whose commitment to the school over another period of change, albeit positive change, has provided consistency and stability for the children.

There have been lots of opportunities for some fun learning this term, with a visit from Bishop Stephen and his very entertaining assembly, Forest School, Twilight and Sleepover, visits out of school, the Nativity and Christmas Church services to name a few. Governors are looking forward to seeing more fun activities at school to boost children's imaginations and springboard some great learning opportunities.

Next term Governance support in school will focus on:

- How learning is made fun and promotes children to be comfortable challenging themselves and to be independent in their learning.
- How maths is taught across the school – this is a key focus for this academic year
- Pupil voice – how children's work is celebrated in school and how they communicate with the school, e.g. through the Learning Council, Holy Council, etc.
- Statutory duties such as ongoing duty to ensure the safety and wellbeing of staff and children.
- Ensuring that the improvements we have seen in school this term continue, to ensure the long term security and sustainability of school improvement into the future.



Wishing you all a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

From the Governors

Tina Cutler, Hazel Steele, Jenny Brown-Lee, Catherine Martin, Revd Cannon Paul Daltry, Andy Cooper,
Sarah Howard, Emily Selfe, Carly Clarke and Kate Handford

(If you are interested in finding out about Governance please contact any one of us via the school office)

Together we believe, learn, achieve and succeed. - Courageous – Creative – Friendly – Persevering – Responsible – Truthful