



CLIFFORD ROAD GOVERNING BODY

Summer Term 2010

Dear Parents and Carers

At the end of another busy term and a very successful school year, the Full Governing Body met on 24th June to reflect on many of the achievements at Clifford Road over the past 12 months and also to plan ahead for the next academic year.

It really has been an extremely successful year for the School, both in the classroom and in its wider activities. Our football team achieved three league victories and an appearance in the Pyramid schools football final. The year 5's achieved third place in the Pyramid rugby tournament.

However our greatest sporting achievement came in this year's swimming gala where we gained our highest ever place. We were fourth overall with the girls' team achieving second place. One team member won her individual final. With no club swimmers and competing against all the Ipswich schools this is a fabulous achievement. Congratulations to Mrs Sargeant and our swimmers on this.

In the Autumn Term, we wrote to you reflecting on a disappointing set of results as a school and outlining arrangements put in place to secure improvement across the School. We have recently received our provisional results and progress has been made throughout the school.

Specifically, our end of Year 6 results have reflected this with 77% of our children achieving level 4 or above in both Maths and English which is a 20% rise on last year – a tremendous result which Staff and Governors are extremely proud of. We are also really pleased with our writing results – an area particularly identified as needing attention. 85% of our children have achieved a level 4 or above which is one of the highest scores in the county.

The year has seen a number of changes on the academic side with new tracking arrangements put in place and the creative curriculum is now well established in school. Some of you may have had chance to see this in action – both in class and in homework. Some homework projects are displayed around the school, along with some wonderful pieces of artwork.

This term saw Governors take part in their annual school visit and getting involved with activities including story telling, performance poetry and a very enjoyable session with Year 6 on their topic, the 1960s! It was great to see the energy and enthusiasm of staff and children for their topic areas, the excellent behaviour of the children and the high standard work.

Moving on to a more disappointing note, there have been 3 incidents of vandalism at the school this year. Two of these occurred before half term and although nothing was stolen, extensive damage was caused to school property. Keyboards and monitors sprayed with paint, glue put on telephones, glue poured over desks. We have worked closely with the police over these crimes and their investigations continue. It seems that the people doing this know the school layout and have taken the opportunity when the hall is being used for lettings in the evening to gain entry and go to another part of the building. We spoken to all who hire our building to ensure that the building remains secure at all time and people who are unknown to them are challenged.

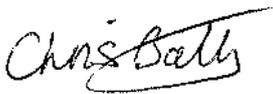
In other Governing Body business, the Communications Committee has been working to produce the new prospectus which will be complete for next term. Along with this, a new school logo has been agreed after consultation with staff, parents and children. The new design will be used for all future letters, posters, website and, at a later date, uniform. The school website is still under review as along with other primary schools feeding into Copleston High School. A meeting is planned to make joint decisions about how we develop the School websites together to enable it to be used more to support learning, as well as being an improved source of information.

Some of you will be aware of the East Anglian Children's Hospice (EACH) Treehouse appeal. The Hospice is being built within the heart of our cluster and will touch the lives of many. It is important for our pupils and our school to become involved in this and Clifford Road is to be the lead school within the cluster in developing opportunities to learn more. On the 7th July we visited the existing hospice and the new site and will be planning some events over the next year with the hospice and other local schools.

Finally, we continue to have a vacancy for a parent governor which will be advertised during the Autumn Term. More information about the role of Parent Governors can be found on the Suffolk County Council [website](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/EducationAndLearning/Schools/SchoolGovernors/GovernorsInformationOnBecomingAGovernor.htm) at www.suffolk.gov.uk/EducationAndLearning/Schools/SchoolGovernors/GovernorsInformationOnBecomingAGovernor.htm. A hard copy of this information is available from the office.

We hope you have found this summary useful. Should you have any questions about the work of the Governing Body or any observations that you wish to share, please do not hesitate to contact us at the following e-mail address (chris@bally3.fsnet.co.uk) or through the school.

Best wishes and have a very good Summer Break.



Chris Bally
Chair of Governors

Steve Wood
Headteacher