



# The Navigator

An update from the school's Governors



## Welcome to the second edition!

Welcome to the second edition of The Navigator. For our new parents and carers of children that recently joined us in year R, this is our termly newsletter to keep you up to date with what the school's Governing Body is doing and how we're supporting the school leadership team to provide outstanding learning and development opportunities at Sarisbury Infants School.

We were extremely pleased to hear the positive feedback that we received following the publication of our first newsletter back in July.

This month we'll be focusing on the school improvement plan, meeting our new Governors and updating you on the school's financial position and the challenges that lie ahead.

It was great to see the school's new Facebook page up and running this term as this provides another way to keep you updated and share the great things that go on at the school. It's early days at the moment but we are looking forward to seeing how this develops.

Many thanks!

Sarisbury Infants School Governing Body

## School Improvement Plan

The School Improvement Plan (SIP) is a key document that outlines the focus areas for the school over the coming year. The Headteacher uses this to ensure that the day to day teaching aligns with the priorities that are set out in the SIP and to track progress using various measures.

The Governing Body uses this to record progress against the flightpath and challenge the Leadership team where we feel that additional focus is required and also to recognise and acknowledge where good progress is being made.

The plan is split into 4 main areas.

### Outcomes:

This focuses specifically on the results achieved for spelling, grammar, mathematics and science at the end of Year 2. The phonics assessment at the end of Year 1 and any retakes at the end of Year 2. The progress of Year R children as they move into Year 1.

### Teaching, Learning and Assessment:

This covers the progress on developing high quality teaching and learning in each year group.

### Leadership and Management:

This part of the SIP looks at how the Governing Body itself is supported through the creation of new roles and new appointments.

It also reviews the communication with parents and how new channels (for example this newsletter and our Facebook page) helps to forge stronger links and understanding.

### Personal Development, Behaviour and Welfare:

This area focusses on raising the awareness of anti bullying strategies to both parents and children and how we embed this into the curriculum and through various focus weeks like the recent one back in November.

We also continue to develop the 'Crew' ethos through our characters in lessons and assemblies to support respect.

As you can see the SIP is quite varied but is clear on its objectives and how this is used to measure performance and achievement at the end of the year.

We hope that this is a useful high level insight for you.

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### Did you know?

- The Governing Body consists of Parent Governors, Co-opted Governors (providing specialist knowledge) and members of the School Leadership Team.
- All the parent and co-opted governors are volunteers. We do it because we have a shared passion to make a difference.

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**'The total budget for running the school for this year has been set at £1,175,490.'**

## Budget position 2017/18

The financial performance of the school is an important part of our role as a governing body and we regularly review this as part of the scheduled meetings.

This includes looking at how the money has been spent and budget setting for the next school year. We recently agreed the budget for this year.

The total budget for running the school for the year has been set at £1,175,490. This is in comparison to the cost for last year which was £1,090,000. This is largely due to increases in staff costs (pay increases and additional staff numbers), business rates and IT hardware.

During the summer holidays we were able to complete the work on the Year R boys toilets and what a difference it has made. It now provides the children with clean and updated facilities that will benefit anyone that heads towards the Year R classrooms, especially in the warmer month of the year!

Pressures from central and local government have meant that the budget is very tight this year.

This year we have been able to purchase 30 new laptops that the school desperately needed. £4000 towards this was provided by the PTA so it really goes to show what a difference the fundraising makes. Thank you PTA.

Another area that makes a big difference is our school meal census days. It's really important that you support these days as the local authority uses this to allocate our funding across the rest of the year. Even if your child prefers a packed lunch from home, on the two census days please make use of the excellent school lunches as it has a direct impact upon the school throughout the rest of the year.

Finally, in order to generate additional income, the school has started to rent out the hall to regular outside groups with further opportunities in the pipeline.

## Meet the team...

Following some movement within the team over the last couple of months, here's a list of the revised membership and their respective roles.

Chair	Pat Lane (LA)
Vice Chairs	Kyle Wood (CG) Nick Hemmings (CG)
Members	Sarah Ford (CG) Sharon Woolrich (CG) Lynsey Morgan (CG) Roanna Dolan (PG) Steve Barrett (CG) Tony Robbins (PG) Angela Murphy (CG) Charlotte Weavers (SG) Sarah Marston (SG) Val Brown (SG) Andy Stockton (AG)

Key:

PG—Parent Governor

CG—Co-opted Governor

LA—Local Authority Governor

SG—Staff Governor

AG—Associate Governor



## A warm welcome...

This term we have been fortunate to recruit three new Governors to the School. Each of them brings valuable experience and knowledge from a breadth of professional areas that will undoubtedly strengthen the team and provide great direction and foresight for the future.

Let's take a moment to introduce them and say hello!

### Angela Murphy

Angela is a senior HR Business Partner at University Hospitals Southampton, and also manages two workplace nurseries there. The latter has given her exposure to the Early Years Framework and the OFSTED inspection process.

Her son has just joined Year R, and with her skills from work, feels that she has a lot to offer to support the school and its management team. With a younger son following on in two years time, she expects to be part of the school for the next 5 years.



### Tony Robbins

Tony is a full time househusband and father of two children, one of whom is currently at Sarisbury Infants, and the other likely to be starting in 2019. At the same time he is studying for a second degree with the Open University, primarily in the fields of mathematics and computer science.

Previously Tony worked in the financial and information technology sectors, including formal Accountancy training, computer programming and project management. Latterly leaving to become a sailing instructor delivering both RYA practical and theory qualifications.

Tony applied to be a Governor because his eldest child, currently in year one, enjoys Sarisbury's environment, standards and ethos. As such he wanted to help the school to maintain and develop these for all the current and future pupils, and as a full time father of two found that he had the available time to do this.



### Steve Barrett

Steve is a Product Manager for a number of leading UK Job boards, such as TotalJobs and Jobsite. As a Product Manager he owns the back-end systems that recruiters use to create job opportunities and evaluate candidates with a primary focus on advanced data analytics and predictive modelling, while tackling the challenge of how best to convey such information to our users and clients.

He applied to be a Governor because helping people is at the heart of everything that he does, particularly as his daughter started this year at the school. He also wants to help the local area having recently moved into it. A way of achieving this is to use his skills to help with strategic direction and focus at the school along with other like-minded governors and even though he works full time, he should be able to use his evenings to help.



**'Our Governors come from all walks of life and bring new experience, knowledge and skills to support the school to achieve excellence.'**

## Could you be the next member of the team?



We still have one vacancy within the team for a Co-opted Governor and are keen to complete the line up.

If you, a Grandparent or you know a suitable member of the local community, are looking for a new challenge, can spare the time and would be interested in joining the Governing Body please contact the school office for further details and one of the team will be in touch.

We look forward to hearing from you!

## Need to get in touch?



We currently don't have a group email address but if for any reason you need to get in touch with us please drop into the school office and leave a message.

We'll get back to you as soon as we can.

## Coming up in the next issue...



In our next issue we'll be covering the School's approach to Safety, Child Protection and Safeguarding and how we're bringing this to life and sharing with you all the latest news. Plus we'll also meet some more of the team.

In the meantime, thanks for reading, enjoy the well earned rest (it really has been a long Autumn term) and we'll see you in 2018!

Enjoy the break!