



Governors' News



Ashton Vale Primary School

Spring/Summer 2016

Term 6 Edition 08

Hello everyone and welcome to our term 6 newsletter from the Governing Body at Ashton Vale School.

Once again I am writing this at the end of another academic year and what a year it has been.

With vast amounts of new Government legislation and a whole new curriculum, it's been a difficult and frustrating year for both teachers and pupils.

We do, however, remain upbeat here at Ashton Vale School and a big **THANK YOU** to our teachers, support staff and all the children who have worked so hard this year.



Book Swap

As from September, Book Swap will be set up again in the reception area on Friday afternoon, after assembly. We have plenty of books for the younger children, but not for children aged between 6 –12 years. If you have any books at home that have been swapped and read or ones you would like to get rid of, please drop them off to the office. Thank you!



Jenny Smith
Co-opted Governor



Handfuls of Harmony Choir – Spring Concert

As a proud governor, responsible for arts and music, I have great pleasure in announcing the release of our trust school choir's 6th CD.

The recording was the culmination of two terms hard work with choir practices every week.

Miss Green has led a group of talented Ashton Vale children, learning songs in both English and two other languages. They joined 250 children from nine other South Bristol schools to form Handfuls of Harmony, led by the enthusiastic choir leader, Ali Orbaum.

The choir (which also includes 50 parents and staff) has now grown so big that we split the schools' choirs between two performances. The concerts were held on 7th May at St. Paul's Church in Bedminster.

The quality of singing and the confidence of the children is a credit to our school. They learnt all the songs by heart and sang unaccompanied, often in three parts, and watched by an audience of 300.

The adults practice at Ashton Park School on a Thursday evening and are always looking for new members. My wife, Daniela, and I both sing in the choir with our children and love the





chance to perform together. What other community activity with ages from 6 to 86 gives both pleasure and confidence, and as we say in the choir, "it's cheaper than therapy".

To order a copy of the CD please send a cheque for £8.00 (made out to SWBCLT) to Roger White at 3 Clifton Wood Crescent, BS8 4TU and he'll post one out to you.

*Richard Higgs
Parent Governor*



A big THANK YOU to our volunteers

We have an amazing amount of volunteers (readers, gardeners, PTA and my own governing body) to name a few. Sometimes we forget to thank these people who work so hard.

Last year we decided to give our volunteers afternoon tea, which was a great success and when I asked Ms Champeney which class we might use to look after our invited guests this year, she suggested Year 1.

As these children were five and six years old, I did think (oh dear). However Mr Inskip, their teacher, put them through a rigorous, but fun-filled couple of weeks training; during this time they learnt about how to meet and greet their guests and to take food orders, they also wrote a poem which was brilliant.

On 13th April the tables were set, children greeted their guests with note books in hand for taking orders and were dressed in aprons which did look very smart.

The children were amazing and several of our volunteers left a few pounds heavier after being offered such wonderful food; some of which had been cooked by the children.



The children read a lovely poem they wrote for their visitors, which rounded the afternoon off so well.

Thank You

Thank you for everything you do,

the reading, gardening

and fundraising too,

We appreciate your dedication

and would like to say thank you

with this small celebration

Because of you Ashton Vale is

a great place to be

We hope you enjoy your afternoon tea

*Written by Robin Class
Ashton Vale 2016*



Sometimes we forget that with adult guidance, these young people can achieve such wonderful things.

May I take this opportunity to thank Robin Class and Mr Inskip for their hard work.



To our Year 6 leavers

On behalf of all the governors, I would like to wish our children in Year 6 who are moving on to Secondary school good luck and success for the future.





And finally...

I would like to give my sincere thanks to Brian Jones, who recently stood down from his governor role, following his house move and to Lin Hunt who has been a governor at our school for many years. They will both be greatly missed as members of the Governing Body. They have been an integral part of our team and their voluntary contribution of commitment and time to our school has been invaluable.

Can I just say that I am always around if you wish to meet up with me, or if you would like to find out more about becoming a governor and don't forget to visit our governors' page on the school website.

I look forward welcoming everyone to the new academic year.



**Have a great
summer!**



*Jenny Smith
Chair of Governors*

