



*Creating opportunities, supporting aspiration, striving for excellence*

## **Summer Newsletter**

July 2014

As we approach the summer break the governors would like to take this opportunity to share a few things with all parents and carers and wish you all a very pleasant and restful summer break.

### **Awards/Special Recognition**

This year has seen many successes for both the Infant and the Junior schools, inside and outside the classroom. We are proud of the children for their excellent academic achievements and their results in many extra-curricular competitions and tournaments, including chess, maths, sports, drama and music.

### **Communication**

Please may the governors remind parents and carers that if they have any concerns or queries about any aspect of school life to communicate them promptly to their class teacher. School policies can be found on the relevant schools website if you are unsure of how to proceed with any concerns. Head teachers and school governors are also available if necessary.

### **School Websites**

The governors would like to remind parents and carers that more information is available than ever before on both school's websites. A new addition is the Pupil Premium summary. This document highlights how the schools are using the valuable government Pupil Premium grant to support disadvantaged students.

### **Residential Trips**

The governors would like to thank the staff that led the successful residential trips to Moat Mount in the Infants and Whitby in the Juniors. All staff that take part give up their personal time to ensure that the children can have these enriching experiences.

### **E-safety Policy**

This term is a busy one for both schools, with many wonderful activities taking place – activities day, assemblies, plays and performances. Please may we remind you that in order to safeguard the children we ask that you do not post any photos or videos to social networking sites. Violations of this policy may result in a blanket ban on any recording devices at school.

## **School Development Plans/Self-Evaluation Forms**

Both schools have produced these key documents, which have been reviewed and validated by the governors. These documents take an incredible amount of work from all the staff and are vital to the schools' review of their targets, achievements and future plans, and are essential documents in preparation for any future Ofsted review. We thank all the staff for all their input.

## **Curriculum Changes**

September brings about many changes in the National Curriculum. The staff are reviewing the impact of these changes and the Curriculum Committee will work with staff to best manage these changes over the coming academic year.

## **Site Improvements**

A barrier across the school driveway will be erected over the summer holidays. This is to ensure the safety of all who use our site. Those parents and carers who are entitled to access the driveway during school hours will still be allowed to do so.

## **Parents Association**

Both schools are incredibly lucky to have such vibrant and active Parents' Associations. In the Infants we all enjoyed a wonderful summer fair, despite the weather, and in the Juniors the children had a fun disco night. The staff and governors would like to thank them for all their hard work raising much-needed funds.

## **Staffing Changes**

The governors wish to say farewell and happy retirement to Heather Blackmore, the Co-Head teacher of the Juniors. The Junior School has thrived under Ms Blackmore, achieving an 'Outstanding' Ofsted rating. We all wish her the very best for the future. Jenny Aylen will become full-time Head teacher of the Juniors in September.

## **Governor Changes**

This term we say goodbye to a long-standing governor, Laura Bier. Laura has served as chair of committees and also as Vice-Chair. We thank for her many years of service and are grateful for her dedication to the schools.