Ingleby Mill Primary School Autumn Term 2015 Governors' Newsletter





We hope you have all had a wonderful term and that your Christmas preparations are well under way. As Governors of IMPS, we would also like to welcome all of the new children (and their parents and carers) who have joined our foundation stage classes and various other year groups.

Busy Summer Decorating

Our Site Staff had a very busy summer decorating 6 classrooms and the whole of Team 1. I am sure you would like to join me in thanking Mr Carter and Mr Morgan for doing such a great job in keeping our school looking spotless!

PTA - Friends of Ingleby Mill

With the fantastic generosity of our PTA, Friends of Ingleby Mill, our children are able to enjoy free transport again this academic year on all of the educational visits. Please continue to support the PTA in their various fundraising activities by coming along to their events and spending your money. What they do for school is invaluable and we benefit from your generosity.

I know they are always looking for help and new volunteers to help organising the various fundraising events and activities in school. If you are able to offer your help, please let Mrs Brown or Mrs Coverdale know.

Mrs Totty

We will be very sad to say goodbye to Mrs Totty at the end of this Academic Year. Mrs Totty has done an incredible job leading our school and her contribution to life within IMPS and also our wider community has been immense. Her impact throughout school has driven standards and she has given magnificent service to our community over the last 8 years, a view which I am sure you will all share with us. Thank you Mrs Totty.

The priority for Governors in the New Year will be to recruit a Head Teacher who will help us to continue to progress. We will keep you informed of our progress.

How you can help us

We are keen to keep you informed about the work that governors do as well as developments in the school. We would love to hear from you if you have any thoughts or ideas on how the school could improve, reduce costs or generate more income. You can email us using the school email which is <u>inglebymill.school@stockton.gov.uk</u>

Governors Meetings

Below is a calendar of the meetings for next term. These meetings are only open to governors, however, if you feel an issue needs to be considered, it is a good idea to contact us in good time before the meeting. If you have a concern about your child, or about a day-to-day issue within the school, it is always best to speak to your child's teacher first. Mrs Totty and Mrs Coverdale are always happy to discuss concerns with you.

Wednesday 20 th	Finance and Staffing
January 2016	Committee
Thursday 4 th	Community Links
February 2016	Committee
Wednesday 24 th	Buildings Committee
February 2016	-
Tuesday 8 th March	School Improvement
2016	Committee
Wednesday 23rd	Full Governing Body
March 2016	

What have Governors done recently?

Governors can regularly be seen in school taking part in the following activities:

- Book Looks- we worked alongside teachers and members of the Local Authority. We do this to ensure children make good progress in their learning and to ensure that school policies are being applied consistently.
- Learning Walks we spend a short amount of time in each classroom looking at how children learn and how teachers teach.
- Congratulated and challenged the school about outcomes at the end of 2014/2015.
- Monitored spending against the agreed budget, including agreeing to buy iPads. The children are also benefitting from the purchase of additional online resources such as Active Learn Abacus and Grammar and Spelling Bug.
- Managed the performance of all staff in school, including setting objectives for the Head Teacher for the coming year.
- Appointing new interim subject leaders for English and Maths to further improve standards in these areas.
- Holidays taken during term time have doubled during the last 18 months so Governors have reviewed our Attendance Policy following advice from the Local Authority. A copy can be seen on our school website <u>www.inglebymill.org.uk</u> We will continue to support families who can provide us with evidence of exceptional circumstances as detailed in the policy.

On behalf of our Governing Body, I would like to thank you for your continued support – it is greatly appreciated. Our school is a success due to the dedication and commitment of our children, parents and staff.

Steve Watson Chair of Governors