



# Governor's Newsletter

<p><b>Update from Burley Primary School Governing Body</b></p>	<p><b>Contents:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>What do we do...?</b></li> <li>2. <b>Who's who...?</b></li> <li>3. <b>Headlines</b></li> <li>4. <b>School Improvement Priorities for 2015-16</b></li> <li>5. <b>Other Updates</b></li> <li>6. <b>Jargon Busting</b></li> <li>7. <b>Next Term</b></li> </ol>	<p><b>Autumn 2015</b></p>
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## What do we do...?

Our Governing body is made up of volunteers from the local community and the wider world of business, offering a diverse range of skills and views, bringing a breadth of experience to the team. We are required to have a strong focus on three core strategic functions:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance management of staff; and
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

As well as the main Governing Body, a good deal of our work is delegated to one of two Committees;

- Curriculum and Standards
- General Purposes

## Who's who...?

Name	Category	Committee Membership	Responsibilities
Michael Lester	Local Authority	General Purposes Committee Curriculum and Standards Committee Pay Committee	Chair of Governors Pupil Premium Governor
Kevin Day	Co-opted	General Purposes Committee Pay Committee	Vice-Chair of Governors Chair of General Purposes Committee Headteacher's Performance Panel Health and Safety Representative
Maria Speirs	Parent	General Purposes Committee Pay Committee	Child Protection Governor
Carina Arnold	Parent	Curriculum and Standards Committee Pay Committee	
Debbie Webber	Co-opted	Curriculum and Standards Committee	Chair of Curriculum and Standards Committee Headteacher's Performance Panel SEN Governor
Val Lelliott	Co-opted	General Purposes Committee	
Dan Twyman	Headteacher		
Elizabeth Shutler	Staff	Curriculum and Standards Committee	
Helen Gaskill	Associate (non-voting member)	Curriculum and Standards Committee	

Further details about the Governors can be found on the school website at <http://burley.hants.sch.uk/governors/>

## Headlines

**2015 Key Stage 2 (Year 6) SATs' Test Results** Congratulations to everybody in the school community for achieving our best ever results. The publication of the Department for Education's Primary League Tables last week has seen us take over the 'top spot' for attainment in the New Forest district; 6<sup>th</sup> place within Hampshire (out of roughly 460

schools) and a coveted spot within the top 1,000, or 6%, of schools Nationally. Our headline key stage 2 results for 2015 were:

	Reading	Writing	GPaS	Maths	Combined (Excluding GPaS)
% Children Achieving Level 4+	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
% Children Achieving Level 5+	59%	59%	82%	59%	41%
% Children Achieving Level 6	0%	18%	0%	24%	0%

**Staffing** Following an unsettled start to the academic year with the loss of Mrs Kitchener and Mrs Hagger from the staff team after a significant number of years of very valuable service to the school, we are back to a full staff compliment. Our congratulations go to Mrs Lynne Solly and Mr Chris White for their successful appointments as Senior Admin Officer and Caretaker respectively.

We were also delighted to welcome Mrs Hayley Tucker and Miss Bonny Sargeant to the staff team from September 2015. Mrs Tucker and Miss Sargeant will be working with groups and classes across the school supporting learning and supplementing the provision for Class Teacher's Planning Preparation and Assessment time.

We're sure you would like to join us in welcoming them both to the staff team and extending our very best wishes for the future at BPS.

**Attendance** As you will be aware, there is a direct link between children's attendance and their levels of happiness and attainment at school hence our target to raise whole school attendance to at least 96% this academic year. The table below highlights the cumulative impact that absence from school can have on a children academic career:

Attendance Figure	Days Absent by End of School Year	School Time Missed by End of Year 11 if Continued
100%	0	0
95%	10	¼ of an academic year
90%	20	½ of an academic year
85%	30	¾ of an academic year
80%	40	1 whole academic year

**100% attendance** – The school will be sending home certificates at the end of term to children that have achieved 100% attendance in order to recognise and celebrate their achievement.

**Less than 90% attendance** – Individual letters will be sent to the families of children with attendance lower than 90% in order to raise awareness and offer support if required.

Many thanks to all families that enable their children to attend school regularly.

### School Improvement Priorities 2015-16

Despite the great results last year, the school continues to strive to improve even further. This year we will be working on the following main objectives:

- 1) Increase percentage of boys, including those eligible for the Pupil Premium, working above age related expectations in Reading to above Nationally achieved percentages. *Achievement*
- 2) Ensure that teaching remains consistently good or better over time. *Quality of Teaching and Learning*
- 3) Increase the percentage of children attending regularly in school, including lowering persistent absence and improving attendance rates of children with SEND, so that whole school attendance is at least 96%. *Behaviour and Safety*
- 4) Refine whole school assessment, tracking and targeting procedures to reflect revised assessment standards and ensure good attainment and progress for all children over time. *Quality of Teaching and Learning*
- 5) Broaden leadership capacity within school to raise standards and continue to improve outcomes for children. *Leadership and Management*

### Other Updates

**Key areas covered by the governing body, committee and/or working party meetings during the Autumn Term 2015**

- ❖ Leadership and staffing

- ❖ Evaluation on 2014-15 - 2015 Key stage 2 (Y6) SATs results
- ❖ Evaluation of 2014-15 - Progress of pupils in other year groups
- ❖ School improvement priorities for the coming year – reported above
- ❖ Financial forecast and revised budget plan
- ❖ Self-evaluation by the governors to consider the effectiveness of leadership and management across the school as judged against the new Ofsted framework
- ❖ Updates to our accessibility plan - available on the school website
- ❖ Review Health & Safety practice and policy
- ❖ Audit of safeguarding practice and policy
- ❖ Compliance with statutory policies and policy review
- ❖ School improvement – monitoring and evaluation
- ❖ Financial management – monitoring
- ❖ Pay and performance management
- ❖ Governing body membership, organisation and committee membership

### Jargon Busting

In this section of the Newsletter each term we will attempt to define some of the educational ‘buzz words’ you may have seen in the news or heard the staff use. Do not hesitate to let us know if there is a particular term/phrase you would like explored. This term’s theme is specific groups of learners (linked to the School Improvement Targets above):

Pupil Premium - additional funding for publicly funded schools in England to raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils and close the gap between them and their peers. Schools receive funding for those children that are eligible for Free School Meals (other than those universally provided for children in Years R-2); looked after or adopted and children of Service personal **when informed of the relevant status by the children’s parents**. If you would like additional information, please do not hesitate to contact a member of staff.

SEND – Special Educational Need or Disability.

EAL – English as an Additional Language

### Next Term

The strategic focus for our full governing body meetings will be the monitoring and evaluation of pupil outcomes - this will include checking for any differences between groups of pupils including boys and girls, SEND, pupils eligible for the pupil premium funding etc – and continuing to raise the profile of the school’s Governing Body through ‘meet the Governors’ sessions.

Finally the Governing Body would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous 2016!

**We welcome feedback about the school – you can share your views by speaking to any of the governors or contacting the school office on 01425 672343 or email [adminoffice@burley.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@burley.hants.sch.uk)**