

News from the Governors of Dussindale Primary School



Governors Update to Parents

This time of year is always special for children at Primary School as it is full of magic and surprise. It also is a good time for reflection on the year and a time to look back over the achievements. The school has been developing fast and it has been a very exciting time to be involved, we would like to thank all the parents that have been actively involved in the school this year.

Many of you visit the school to help out with class projects and accompany school trips. Parent questionnaires were completed by a great number of you and this is greatly appreciated as it helps us to help you and your children.

You gave us a vote of confidence in our work as governors and the excellent teaching staff by telling us that you would mostly change nothing, with the next two priorities being extra-curricular activities and communication. Despite this very pleasing and positive response we have not been complacent and have already launched our new website, which will be able to help improve our communication.

www.dussindaleprimary.co.uk



We have just seen our new school Website launched Emma Dawson has worked so hard to ensure that it is completely user friendly and packed with helpful information.

Some particularly pleasing events that you and your children have contributed to and for which governors want to say a very big

thank you

- **Involving the community** (see Dave Montgomery's report over)
- **Involving you as parents** through the highly successful PTFA which raises significant money to provide extras for our children. PTFA raised over £4,600 last year.
- **Attending evening meetings** such as the recent one launching our new website.
- **Consideration of the learning of others** by ensuring that you do not take holidays in term time.

Governors wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Taken from a report by parent governor Dave Montgomery

One of the main mantras of the school's ethos is not just to be in the community but to be playing an active role within the community. This approach realises two things. The first is that it allows children to feel they are contributing in a positive manner in their community; the second is that it raises the profile of the school showcasing pupils' talent.

This was realised in two events recently. The first was pupils taking pictures and visiting a retirement home near the school. The second was the school being represented at the Thorpe St Andrew Carol Service.

Going to a retirement home is a brilliant way of engaging with people. The pupils looked happy and excited to be there, and we are sure that they made some of the seniors in Dussindale very happy. This brings the youngest in our community together with the older members in an engaging and fun way.

Thorpe St Andrew Carol Concert on December 7th at the local community centre was a mix of people from around Dussindale and Thorpe St Andrew, and included a varied mix of local talent. Kicking off the night, and one of the highlights of the evening, was the Dussindale School Choir and the Dussindale Steel Band.

We appreciate the benefits performing arts can give to our pupils. Benefits such as being able to speak confidently, self-worth, self-confidence, sense of achievement, wellbeing, and skills that can be used in a variety of ways are just some that are realised. It also enables pupils of all abilities to be involved. It's fantastic that the school puts value and time into this, along with all the other activities.

Well done to all the pupils involved. The school and the pupils should feel rightly proud of the talent and skills, as well as the desire to be an integral part of the community.



Standards

Governors see detailed information about the standards reached by the children at our school. We are very pleased to be able to tell you that the standards reached by our children at the end of Key Stage 1 are very good indeed - well above national and Norfolk averages in reading and maths. Children continue to make good progress in Key Stage 2, and we are looking forward to our first Key Stage 2 SATs results at the end of this year.

We say well done to all of you for your contributions as parents to our children and especially to the excellent staff that deliver such pleasing results.

***Ho Ho Ho
Happy Christmas***



Governors are there for you and your children - we are always happy to receive your views and contribution and will use them to the best advantages of the whole school and its community