

## Governor News Summer 2019

# Welcome to the Summer term newsletter from the Governing Board of Bentley Church of England V.C and Copdock Primary Schools

### Parent Questionnaire

Thank you to everyone who responded to our questionnaire on communication, we received 31 responses at Copdock and 28 at Bentley. From the results of the questionnaire we can clearly see that communication is viewed positively by parents and for the most part is effective and efficient.

The following feedback will be used to support us to review practice for the new school year in September.

- As the vast majority of people access information via email, we will continue to use this as our main form of communication. We will continue to use the website as an additional place for the weekly news and letters sent home, to ensure access is available to everyone if they mislay the email. This was a suggested improvement, so we are keen to ensure everyone knows that this has been available for quite a while here <http://www.bentleycopdock.co.uk/page/bentley-letters/27332>  
<http://www.bentleycopdock.co.uk/page/school-letters/27331>
- It was great to hear you find workshops helpful. We will try workshop sessions again in the evening alongside some afternoon ones. On September 11<sup>th</sup> we will be holding a Welcome Information Evening so parents can meet all teachers and other parents informally, starting the year with positive interaction and discussion around life in each class. More information will be shared about this but keep the date free!

### Actions for consideration:

- Information via calendar listings on the website: we do try to separate the schools in the spider APP but will look at this again to ensure it is clear in which school an event is happening. Only 2 people said they use the website for information, so we need to consider the workload associated with adding extra information to listings if it is not useful to many parents.
- Homework and progress information will be discussed by the staff team ready for the new school year. An update on expectations and the consistent approaches for sharing information with you, will be discussed at the parents meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> September. We hope to see you there.
- We do try to give notice of things coming up as part of our weekly news but will continue to work on providing as much notice as possible for events and activities. We are reviewing our curriculum plans so this should be easier to accommodate. All topic webs will be available on the website and we will continue to include details about events in the weekly news for parents to keep a closer eye on. We also want to be responsive to local or national events so our children have the best experiences available to them. For this reason, we may have some activities which occur within a flexible timeframe.

We hope these changes will continue to support effective communication going forward.

### **SATs Results**

Congratulations once again to children and staff for the successful results following SATs tests in May. Both schools achieved above the provisional national results (in brackets) as detailed below.

Bentley: Reading 88% (73%), Writing 88% (78%), Maths 100% (79%)

Copdock: Reading 100% (73%), Writing 90% (78%), Maths 100% (79%)

Results also highlighted the encouragement and additional challenge provided for pupils working at 'greater depth', with many of our children achieving the higher standards in these core subjects too. Further information will be available on the school website once validated data is available later in the year.

<http://www.bentleycopdock.co.uk/page/performance-data/21110>

## **Staff Changes**

It is with heavy hearts we find ourselves saying goodbye to Janet Parnell this year. When Janet first arrived at Copdock Primary School, we had an Ofsted rating of Requires Improvement. In her 18 years at the school, she has worked tirelessly as part of the Senior Leadership Team that brought about those important changes that were needed to steer the school through an outstanding Ofsted and then maintain it for a second time. She has supported and developed new staff while continuing to mould young minds and support many pupils to become confident, responsible and successful individuals. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Janet for all her hard work and commitment to the school and wish her a very happy and relaxing retirement.

We would also like to welcome Laura Collins, who joins us from September as our Woodpecker class teacher. Laura was an outstanding candidate, bringing with her a wealth of knowledge and skills that will make her an asset to Copdock Primary School and the Federation. We are excited that she will be working as part of our team and hope she settles into the school routine with ease, quickly feeling part of the school community.

## **Governor and PTA Recruitment**

Thank you to all who have helped to support both our schools this year. The PTA's have once again been invaluable in driving fundraising events, which have in turn financially supported the curriculum and enrichment activities for our pupils. A great deal of time and effort goes in to the planning of events and without the help and support of our committed volunteers we would be unable to financially support so many trips and activities. We look forward to celebrating our fundraising efforts with the purchase of some new ipads in the coming year. Well done to all!

As a Governing Board, we are also extremely lucky to have a group of very committed governors, who bring a wide range of skills and expertise to the team.

It is through the partnership of these people, along with the dedicated staff team, that our schools continue to be such special places to work and learn. If you are keen to support us to continue this successful journey next year, why not consider offering some time to be part of this team.

We are currently looking to recruit members to both the PTA and Governing Board and look forward to hearing from any interested parties.

### **Governing Board:**

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**Bentley PTA:** [aimeelouispta@hotmail.com](mailto:aimeelouispta@hotmail.com)

**Copdock PTA:** [copdockprimarypta@outlook.com](mailto:copdockprimarypta@outlook.com)

## **Head Pupils**

A special thank you goes to our Head Pupils who have supported school evaluation admirably throughout the year. The Head Pupils from both schools came back in the evening and gave a presentation to governors this term. They gave examples of their achievements through the year and a detailed report on their monitoring of safety and well-being from the children's point of view.

All governors were unanimous in praising the work done by these children and the confident way in which they presented their findings. Their views are very important to us.

They have been superb ambassadors for their schools.

**As we approach the last few days of the term, we would like to wish everyone an enjoyable time with family and friends over the summer holidays.**

**We look forward to working in partnership with you all again in the new academic year.**