

Spring Term 2016 Governor's News

What an exciting term ~ not only were staff and pupils very busy and successful, but the Governing Body have also been hard at work! Unfortunately our new Parent Governor, Michelle Palmer, appointed in December 2015, resigned due to changing commitments. In her place Kim Murray was elected Parent Governor in February this year. Vicky Modlin, a local business-woman joined us in December 2015, as a Co-opted Governor. The governing body would like to welcome them both and we look forward to working together. For the first time in a long time the Governing Body is now up to full strength.

Over the past few years Jane Nicolls has been clerk to the governing body. Jane has been meticulous in her record keeping, establishing routines and minute taking, encouraging governors to take up training opportunities and keeping governors up to date with government changes and policy. Jane will be greatly missed but we wish her well in her new venture.

Once again Key Stage 2 pupils had the opportunity to have an overnight stay at CAFT (Children's Adventure Farm Trust). It was all very successful. Governors would like to thank staff for arranging, planning and staffing the week. It takes a lot of organising and additional work for staff but it is well worthwhile as the pupils gain such a lot from the different experiences.

Our last piece of news is the most exciting that a governing body can announce! We have appointed a new Headteacher – Lucy Lee. Lucy is at present Deputy at Hebden Green Special School. Jude has been an exceptional Head teacher and Rosebank School has gone from strength to strength under her leadership. When Jude was successful in getting the headship at Dee Banks, finding her successor fell to the governing body – a huge responsibility. We initially advertised before Christmas but were very disappointed with the response. It was then decided to work with Red Apple, an educational recruiting agency. Working together, we were able to give the school and the post a much higher profile and were then able to attract a very good field of candidates.

The interview process was rigorous and the candidates had several tasks to complete ~ pupil panel, an informal gathering with members of staff, formal interview and presentation that they had to prepare on the day. This process was completed over two full days. The pupils had their opportunity to be represented by some of the members of the School Council. The panel of pupils were excellent and asked some very searching questions. We tried very hard to give staff opportunities to meet the candidates, to talk to them and to ask questions.

By the end of the two-day interview process the panel of governors who were present all through the process (five members), were unanimous in the decision that Lucy Lee was the best candidate and a worthy successor to Jude. Lucy recognised all the strengths at Rosebank and the importance of the holistic approach to education. She intends to consolidate what is in place and then further develop certain aspects.

When I announced to staff that Lucy was the successful candidate I did so with the confidence of knowing that the governors, advisory members of the interview panel, staff and pupils were all happy with the decision. We all look forward to welcoming and working with Lucy and I'm sure she will be visiting the school prior to her taking up her post as Rosebank's new Headteacher in September 2016. We will be sad to see Jude move on to Dee Banks, but I'm sure we will maintain links and see Rosebank and its pupils continue to prosper.