

Hollydale Primary School
Governing Board Annual Report
2013/14 A Transformative Year



Message from the Chair of Governors

This year has seen dramatic changes at Hollydale Primary School, with the appointment of a new Head Teacher, Ms Reid.

We could not have foreseen how challenging Ms Reid's first year would be, with an Ofsted inspection three weeks into the new school year. The inspection report, finding the school "Requires Improvement", provides a useful benchmark at the start of Ms Reid's time at the school. The report identified a number of areas where the school needed to improve, and Ms Reid and the Governing Body have worked very hard with the local authority to plan and implement the changes we need to make.

We know from the HMI letter and the response from the parent survey we are already making a difference:

"I have seen a massive change in the school since the new Head Mistress took over [in September 2013]. Its very welcome"

"My child really likes coming to school. I have witnessed it going from strength to strength since Ms Reid took over"

"Please continue to strive in making great improvements to the school as this can be a good or outstanding school"

This report aims to illustrate some of the positive changes that have taken place over the past year. A big thank you to all the Teachers, Teaching Assistants, Support Staff, pupils, parents and carers who've helped make it happen!

Paul Bennett
Chair of Governors

Board of Governors

About Hollydale Primary School's Governing Body

We have 14 positions on our governing body:

5 parent governors: Rukayat Basaru Paul Bennett (Chair of Governors) Ben Hyde Fred Sharrock (Link Governor for Numeracy) Toni-Marie Spong (Link Governor for Parental Engagement)	6 co-opted governors: Marie-Joelle Deschamps Laky Matin Adeola Muir (Link Governor for SEN) Stephen Semple (Link Governor for Literacy) Tomas Thurogood-Hyde (Vice Chair of Governors, Link Governor for Local Authority and Governor Training) (1 vacancy)
1 staff governor: Pat Brown	1 Local Authority governor: Anne Kirby
1 Headteacher: Reema Reid	

Currently there is 1 co-opted governor vacancy, if you know someone who might be interested in becoming a Community Governor at the school, then please let us know.

We meet once every half term as a full governing body. Our Committees meet separately at least once every half term and report back to the Governing Board. Each governor is on at least one committee, and we also have Link Governors who represent different aspects of school life.

Who are we?

Paul Bennett

Parent Governor, Chair of Governors

Paul has been a governor at Hollydale for five years, and chair for three. He has lived in Nunhead for the last thirteen years, having lived in East Dulwich for three years before that.

Paul works for energy company EDF, where he is in Corporate Finance.

"I love the family atmosphere at Hollydale and want to help the school do the best it can for all its children"

Rukayat Basaru

Parent Governor

Rukayat has lived in Peckham since 1998 and has two girls, the elder is in year 1 Hollydale and younger one starts in September 2014. She is an entrepreneur and founder of True African

Heritage, African Business Entrepreneur Networking UK & Europe and ABEN Awards. In her spare time, She helps women with children in the community.

" I want the very best for Hollydale children. I want them to be happy, confident and become the very best they can be. Family is the first school for young children, and parents are powerful models. As parents we need to support Hollydale school but when necessary we should also put the school under tough scrutiny."

Pat Brown

Staff Governor

Pat has been a governor since May 2013.

Marie-Joelle Deschamps

Co-opted Governor

I have been a Year 1 teacher at Hollydale since 2011 and prior to this, I worked in schools in Peckham and Camberwell for many years. I became the teacher governor in October 2013 but I also was a support staff governor at my previous school and a parent governor at my children's school when they were young. I have good data handling skills as I have a Masters in Research in Education and I have had training in analysing school data, which is an important skill for a governor to have. I have lived in Peckham for over 25 years and I am very committed to the future of our local schools as I see them as the centre of the community where we live.

Ben Hyde

Parent Governor

Ben has recently become a parent governor. He was previously a local authority governor, at Beormund School in Borough. He bought a house in Nunhead 18 years ago though has spent the last ten years living in France. He has a strong commitment to supporting the local community and is a board member of Nunhead's Voice community group with particular interest in the setting up of the new community centre. He developed from scratch and successfully ran his own organic bakery and shop in France. He also has experience in IT and web design, lecturing, graphic design and has also been an audio-visual technician. He has three children, the youngest Zoe is in year 4. He is keen to support the schools development particularly in the area of teaching and learning resources and parental involvement.

Anne Kirby

Local Authority Governor

Anne has been a Governor since 2010. She has recently been elected as a Local Councillor in Southwark. Anne is a qualified Administrator, Part Qualified Bookkeeper and a Nurse. As a Governor, Anne is passionate about education and actively supports and contributes to Hollydale Primary School's efforts in working towards achieving a good/outstanding status in teaching and pupil attainment. "I am enthusiastic about my involvement in the school and undertake regular governor training enabling to be effective in my role."

Laky Matin

Co-opted Governor

Laky has worked within Southwark for over ten years, and lives locally to the school. She is a lawyer for the Crown Prosecution Service and is active in volunteering and pro-bono legal work. "I have a passion for learning and believe that a good primary education is essential to every child as it develops their attitude, approach and ambition for learning at an early stage."

Adeola Muir

Co-opted Governor, Chair of Attainment and Learning Committee, Link Governor for SEN

As a Behaviour Specialist in Southwark since 2000, I have worked in most primary and secondary schools within the borough with some of the most vulnerable children and young people. Hollydale school was one of the first schools that I was allocated, and I have been here since then!

I am passionate about the well-being of children and young people, wanting them to achieve and reach their personal best. I believe that children are the most resilient of us all and deserve to be championed by caring adults. They have a right to be given the best education, in a warm, safe, happy, inspirational and captivating learning environment that is serviced by the best educators. At this moment in time, Hollydale School is on its way to becoming just that type of learning environment, and I am honoured to be a governor and be part of the journey to get there.

Reema Reid

Head Teacher

Stephen Semple

Co-opted Governor, Chair of Resources Committee, Link Governor for Literacy

Stephen works as a financial advisor and has many years experience working for Barclays bank and HSBC bank and has been on Hollydale's Governing Body since October 2012. He wishes to use his knowledge to contribute to the effective use of Hollydale's financial resources enabling high attainment of its children.

"I would like the children attending Hollydale to be confident, desiring to achieve and to make wise choices with their finances.

Fred Sharrock

Parent Governor. Link Governor for Numeracy

Fred has two daughters. The eldest started at Hollydale in 2013. Fred has lived in Southwark since 2000 and in Nunhead since 2010. He works in a management role for a federation of academies and was a governor at another school for twelve years before being elected as a parent governor at Hollydale.

"Hollydale is a lovely, friendly, community school and it's constantly striving to improve. I want to help Hollydale give the best possible education to local children."

Toni-Marie Spong

Parent Governor, Chair of Pupils, Parents and Community Committee and Link Governor for Parental Engagement

Toni has lived in Nunhead since 2005 and has two sons, the elder is in year 2 at Hollydale. She works at the National Audit Office as a Knowledge Manager. In her spare time she escapes to her allotment growing raspberries, onions, potatoes and hundreds of courgettes.

"I want our children to enjoy school and I want Hollydale to help them all fulfil their potential. I also think it's important for parents to be involved in the school and support it in any way they can."

Tomas Thurogood - Hyde

Co-opted Governor and Vice Chair of Governors. Link Governor for Pupil Premium, Governor Development and Chair of the Headteacher's Appraisal Panel

Tomas has lived in Peckham since 2012. He works as a qualifications administrator for the Prince's Trust youth employment and education charity and has been on Hollydale's Governing Body since December 2012.

"I want Hollydale pupils to have the best start possible so that they can compete, achieve and excel in a challenging world."

What do we do?

In its 'Governors' Handbook' the Department for Education summarises the role of the Governing Body in this way:

"In all types of schools, governing bodies should have a strong focus on three core strategic functions:

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

At Hollydale we take our voluntary role very seriously. We want the school to do the best it possibly can for its pupils - your children. These strategic functions are covered by four committees:

School Improvement Oversight Board

The School Improvement Oversight Board (SIOB) was formed after the Ofsted inspection to allow Governors to quickly drive improvements in the school. It is a smaller group of Governors, meets two or three times every half term and can act on behalf of the Governing Body. This allows us to make rapid changes to governance and give more consistent challenge to the school. The SIOB will continue until the school has attained a Good rating.

Attainment and Learning Committee

The Committee is responsible for overseeing the educational performance of the school and its pupils. Governors now receive reports on the progress of each class every half term. These show how children are doing in reading, writing and maths and how much progress they have made during their time in the school and during the year to date. In addition to looking at how each class is doing, the committee looks at the performance of different groups of children, for example children from different ethnic backgrounds, to make sure that all groups are doing well in the school. The committee also receives reports on the quality of teaching in the school from the Head Teacher and from the local authority.

Resources Committee

The Resources Committee is responsible for proposing the budget and for making sure that money is properly and effectively spent. This year, governors have had to consider the demands of funding interventions to boost pupils' attainment, paying for more supply staff and making money available for improvements to the school that will make Hollydale a safer and more enjoyable environment.

To achieve this, governors have agreed to spend money from the reserves and to reduce the amount carried over into next year's reserve. The Resources Committee will ensure that the school's finances remain healthy and that the reserves are restored in subsequent years; a governor has also been appointed to raise more income from grants. If you have any ideas or contacts that could help the school raise money, please let Ms Reid know.

Pupils, Parents, Carers and Community Committee

The Pupils, Parents and Community Committee have focused on the issue of parental engagement, following up issues raised in the parent survey to ensure they were being addressed. We have discussed ways of improving communications with parents, and made recommendations to the Governing Board on future improvements.

Highlights and Improvements in the school over the past year:

Teaching and Learning

Improving the quality of teaching: The Governing Board and the Attainment and Learning Committee have ensured that there has been a focus on helping teaching and support staff to develop their skills. Staff have visited John Donne and Rotherhithe schools to observe outstanding practice, and we have been working with Crampton school to develop a new maths curriculum. By the time of the Local Authority Inspection in January, just three months after the Ofsted report, the quality of teaching had improved and has continued to do so.

We're really proud of our Year 2 teacher Ms Sultana who received an Outstanding Teacher award from Southwark following the Local Authority inspection in January.

Pupil Assessment: Over the past year there has been a huge focus on improving the accuracy of assessment of pupils' attainment and progress, particularly in Writing and Maths. The school has better processes in place for tracking data internally. Pupils are assessed through ongoing Teacher assessment and half termly tests in all stages of their school career:

- Early Years Foundation Stage: seven areas of learning;
- Key Stage 1: Reading writing, Maths science and phonics
- Key Stage 2: Reading, writing, Maths and science

This annual assessment cycle informs teachers' ongoing planning ensures pupils are making good progress.

Ms Reid produced an ambitious and demanding School Action Plan and governors were pleased that Year 6 achieved the targets set out. Pupils worked hard and deserve this and future success. Teachers and support staff also worked hard to achieve these results, putting in long hours in what has been a difficult year.

Governors are grateful to everyone who made these results possible and have approved interventions and resources to support them; they also recognise the need to ensure that pupil progress is more sustained throughout a child's whole time at Hollydale and will continue to support the school in achieving this.

The Head Teacher and Governing Board have been busy recruiting new staff including office staff, teachers and Assistant Head for September.

Pupils achieving their full potential

Music, drama, and sport have provided some of the highlights of the school year.

Music and drama: Pupils put in some amazing performances in the Christmas end of term productions for both Key Stage 1 and Key stage 2, late-comers were left with standing room only. Mince pies and cups of tea rounded the event off nicely for the many parents and carers who enjoyed the shows.

The Spring concert was as popular as ever and showed off the various musical talents of children throughout Key Stage 1 and 2. Recorders, brass instruments, guitars, piano and singing made it an evening to remember. This July, 6 pupils will take Grade Music examinations; 4 in recorder and 2 in trumpet. Pupils took part in the Southwark choir festival at the Royal festival hall.

Poetry and story writing: Over 50 pupils' work was chosen to be published by the national Young writer's competition <https://www.youngwriters.co.uk>

Sports: This is a key area of development. The school now participates in borough-wide competitions and PE festivals. We are also lucky enough to have a professional sports coach who teaches PE lessons and leads our sports multi-skills clubs for Key Stage 1 and 2 after school.

We are really proud of our Key Stage 2 boys and girls football teams who took part in the local schools league and our Key Stage 2 basketball team who won the Southwark League!

Next year we plan to develop a netball team.

Working in Partnership with the local community and other schools

We have great links with Nunhead Library and are very proud to display our work there. Classes in reception and Key Stage 1 visit the library several times a term and we enjoy taking part in the Summer Reading Challenge. Over Summer 2013 25 pupils took part, this year we hope even more will join in.

A team of children from Key Stage 1 took part in a local Maths 24 Tournament at Rye Oak School, they didn't win any prizes but they had a great time visiting a different school.

We are building closer links with St Thomas the Apostle College on Hollydale Road. Year 5 maths high achievers completed a five week maths course there this year. Next year we hope to take advantage of the fantastic science facilities for science workshops as well as work with their school orchestra.

School Improvement - creating a caring and stimulating environment

Break times are now more fun with the giant chess set and table tennis tables in the playgrounds, more toys and games available and lunchtime enrichment clubs including sewing and book club. A number of pupils from year 3 upwards have trained to be Peer Mediators. They have been given training to help children resolve issues which arise during lunch times. The team of mediators is managed by the Learning Mentor and the Senior Meals Supervisor.

Safety: Enhanced security measures mean the school is a safer place to be. Two security cameras have been installed to monitor the entrances to the school and staff all sign in using security passes.

Improvements to the stairwell at the hall end of the building were greatly appreciated by pupils and prompted children based at the other end of the building to ask when their stairs were going to be updated. This has now happened and the stairs are carpeted, quieter and safer.

Anything to do with the school's budget is dealt with by the Resources Committee. Plans for next year include improvements to the school reception area, providing more office space for our administration team . Following an ICT audit, plans are being developed to improve ICT provision particularly in terms of using IT across the curriculum.

Working in partnership with parents and carers

Parents and carers continue to support the school and their children. Our parent survey in the Spring was overwhelmingly positive but did raise some issues which we have started to address, including providing a wider range of enrichment clubs and improved support for transition to Secondary school.

New after school enrichment clubs: including jewellery making, boys' and girls' football, cookery, French, sports multi-skills, gardening, dance, basketball and homework club. These have proved fantastically popular and we plan to extend the number of clubs available next year.

School transition: We are making improvements to the support provided to pupils and parents to help them through the transition from Primary to Secondary. For the first time this year initial information sessions have been held for Year 5 in July rather than in September and pupils are being given the chance to look round prospective schools.

New initiatives like the Key Stage 1 reading together sessions have given parents and carers a chance to come and spend time in the school with their children.

Newsletters are now being sent out weekly so parents are better informed and each class has its own page on the school website so you can see what your children have been getting up to

at school. For one pupil in Lime Class whose father lives abroad this has proved invaluable. The child loves the fact that he/she can share his school experience with his father despite the distance between them. And the father can see what being at Hollydale School is really like!
Newsletter by email trial currently taking place

Friends of Hollydale School

The Friends of Hollydale includes anyone who supports the school. This year a group of parents worked really hard to clear the courtyard garden so it was ready for the gardening club to get sowing, planting and growing in the summer term. They have also managed to secure a grant of £1500 to buy equipment and furniture to help make the garden a haven once more. The after school gardening club is also run by parents.

Parents and carers continue to help out on school trips, judging the Easter Bonnets and Gardens competition, baking cakes and helping to organise the Christmas and Summer Fayres. Your time and effort is much appreciated, we couldn't do it without you!