

Telephone: (01275)332820



Fax:(01275)331642

STANTON DREW PRIMARY SCHOOL
STANTON DREW
BRISTOL
BS39 4EQ

WebSite www.stantondrewprimary.co.uk
Headteacher: Lynda Bills

7th October 2011

NEWSLETTER



ALISON KEARNEY – GOVERNOR PROFILE

I became a governor of Stanton Drew back in 2006 prior to the Federation with Bishop Sutton. At that point both my children were at Stanton Drew, I was already involved with the school Friends Association as Treasurer but was keen to be more actively involved, and help the school further.

As an Accountant I felt that I could use my skills to the Governing Body's advantage. I have worked in the public sector for over twenty years and am a Chartered Public Finance Accountant, so fully understand the issues of quality of service provision versus tight budget pressures.

Having assumed that being a governor of a small village school would be fairly uneventful, dealing with the decisions over a hard federation with Bishop Sutton was somewhat of a wake-up

call! Some tough decisions had to be made that year and I am immensely proud of the Governing Body, Head, Staff, Pupils and families at both schools who have embraced the changes. It was down to everyone's hard work and commitment that the transition was so smooth and that the schools have moved forward from strength to strength.

It is down to this positive attitude that the unique natures of both schools have been maintained even though we have one Governing Body and Head.

I am Chair of the Finance, Pay and Personnel Committee. This meets around four times a year and we look at setting the annual budgets for both schools, monitoring in year spend, staff pay reviews, setting financial and personnel policies and we also deal with any personnel issues that arise.

All Governors have a Link Governor responsibility for one syllabus area. My area is MFL (Modern Foreign Languages). I have visited both schools and observed the excellent provision in this area led expertly by Mrs Pryde.

My son has now moved onto Chew Valley School, but I have a niece and nephew at Bishop Sutton and with my daughter moving into year 5 at Stanton Drew I have a strong link to both schools. I think it is very important that as Governors of Federated Schools we remember that we are responsible for both schools and those of us who are parent governors to use our personal experience as parents, not to make decisions based on our own children, but for the pupils of the Federation as a whole.



FEDERATED SCHOOLS SEE IMPROVED OUTCOMES - OfSTED

You may remember that the federation of Bishop Sutton and Stanton Drew primary schools were inspected last October as part of Ofsted's evaluation of the impact of federations. The report has now been released by Ofsted and states that where schools have joined together to raise standards, improvements have been seen in the three key areas of teaching and learning, behaviour and pupils' achievement. While we are not mentioned by name in the main body of the report, we are included in the annex of schools included in the survey. If you would like to read the full report it can be found on the Ofsted website at

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/leadership-of-more-oneschool>

CORRESPONDENCE & MONIES

Please remember to put all money sent to school in a container/envelope clearly marked with your child's name and details of payment. Children should place all money and correspondence in the classroom containers. This allows Mrs Carpenter to deal with all correspondence and payments together and reduces the risk of items being lost or misplaced. Thank you for your co-operation.

HARVEST CELEBRATIONS

A reminder that the rehearsal will be held at St. Mary's Church at 9am on Wednesday 12th October, children should be brought to the church and we will walk back to school. The service will be held in St. Mary's Church at 11am on Thursday 13th October followed by our harvest lunch in school. Please ensure children have suitable footwear and a warm, waterproof coat on both days.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

Please remember that, wherever possible, medical appointments such as dental and ophthalmic appointments should be made outside of school hours.

INSET DAY

There will be an Inset Day on Monday 20th February.

DIARY DATES

13 TH OCTOBER	HARVEST SERVICE & LUNCH
21 ST OCTOBER	END OF TERM 1
31 ST OCTOBER	TERM 2 STARTS
21 ST NOVEMBER	PARENT CONSULTATIONS: 3.30 – 5.30
23 RD NOVEMBER	PARENT CONSULTATIONS: 4.30 – 6.30
16 TH DECEMBER	END OF TERM 2
3 RD JANUARY	TERM 3 STARTS

DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER MONDAY, 17TH OCTOBER

This newsletter, along with holiday dates, can now be found on our website:

www.stantondrewprimaryschool.co.uk

under PARENTS