



RICHARD TAYLOR CE AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL

Bilton Lane
HARROGATE
North Yorkshire
HG1 3DT

Telephone: 01423 563078

Fax number: 01423 701103

Head Teacher: Mr Andrew Symonds BA Hons

Spring Term 2015

Dear Parents

I would like to start by wishing you all a Happy New Year; it feels as though we have been blown into 2015 with the strong winds we have experienced recently. But the good news is we are in the Spring term and although we have snow on the ground, at least we know spring and the time for things to grow is just around the corner.

This spring term will also see Richard Taylor grow as we embark on a very exciting time in our history by moving to become an academy as part of the St Aidan's Church of England Multi Academy Trust. In the early part of last year as governors we spent time considering the future of RTS, and all felt that should an opportunity like this arise we would like to pursue it to ensure our school was in the driving seat helping to create something rather than join an existing organisation. This transition should hopefully be complete during this half term. One of the main elements is that RTS will retain its existing Governing Body ensuring people who are passionate about the school will still be helping to drive the school forward and support the staff. With this in mind I have detailed below members of the Governing Body for your information.

I would also like to draw your attention to our Gift Aid Scheme which continues to be absolutely essential to enable us to maintain a high quality environment in our school. We remain hugely ambitious for our school and your children's education and have been lucky enough to invest heavily in our building over the last few years and that has been helped by parental generosity, so please consider supporting the scheme.

Your Governing Body is:-

David Sanderson

I have been a governor at RTS for 9 years and chair of Governor's for 7. My key role is to act as critical friend to the head teacher and staff. I support the work of the other governors by attending the sub committee meetings; finance, personnel, premises, curriculum and admissions. In addition, I have particular responsibilities for child protection and ICT.

Steve Scarisbrick

I am a foundation governor at RTS. I have been a governor for 9 years and have two children, one attends St Aidan's and the other is in his final year at RTS. I have three main roles on the governing body; firstly, I am the vice chair of the board; secondly, I am chair of the personnel committee and thirdly I am the literacy governor. I am delighted to represent a school of which we can all be proud.

Sarah Bonson

I have been a governor for 5 years, 4 years as a parent governor and 1 year as a foundation governor. My daughter has left RTS but I maintained my association with RTS through my governor role. As a foundation governor I am responsible for the school maintaining and upholding its Christian ethos. I am also chair of the Finance committee and sit on the premises committee as well as special interest in numeracy and IT. I'm a class governor to Wharfedale.



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Julie Allison

Elected as a parent governor in September 2013, I am a local secondary school teacher with over twenty years teaching experience. I am thoroughly enjoying my role, attending full governor meetings and personnel and curriculum meetings. I also have responsibilities as class governor to Wensleydale class and have specific interests in Literacy.

Mike Finlinson

I have lived in Harrogate for twenty years, the last fifteen of which have been in the Bilton area. I have been a governor at RTS for a number of years and continue to enjoy being part of a community and faith focused school. I have a personal interest in the school having it as the first step to education for my own children, and take special interest in finance, health and safety, premises, and early years areas of school business.

Jan Johnson

I am a foundation governor representing the Diocesan Board of Education and the parent of a registered child. I became a governor in 2008 and currently sit on the Premises, Health and Safety, Finance, Worship and Mission and Curriculum committees. I'm also the governor with specific responsibility for Special Educational Needs provision within the school.

Victoria Amella

I was appointed Foundation governor in September 2013. However, I have been a parent of the school for six years and within this time been an active member of the Friends of Richard Taylor, raising vital extra funds to support the school. I have three children who attend the school in various different year groups which gives me a broad understanding of each class. As governor I sit on the Curriculum committee and the Worship & Mission committee.

Michelle Read

I was elected as a parent governor and began my role in September 2013. I have two children. My son left RTS in July 2014 and my daughter started in reception in September 2014. I currently sit on the Finance committee. As a childminder I have a particular interest in the areas of Early Years and also in General Complaints. I feel very proud to be a part of such a fantastic school.

Jean Atkinson

I am the elected non-teaching governor. I've been working at RTS for 4 years as a higher level teaching assistant, mainly with the older children in Key Stage 2. I'm currently a member of the curriculum and admissions committees of the governing Body.

Tim Walden

I have been a foundation governor at RTS since 2008, and my child also attended the school leaving in July 2014. I am involved with admissions, personnel and mission & worship committees. I also have responsibility with any matters surrounding equality. I firmly believe that Richard Taylor School is a fantastic place to be, and one that will give our children a valuable head start in life in many different ways.

Linda Williams

I was appointed in 2005, serving on staff dismissal, personnel and church/community committees. I have special responsibility for worship and RE at RTS. I am married to Reverend David Williams with two adult children, I am a retired ward sister, telephone Samaritan, adult literacy tutor and magistrate and enjoy being a foundation governor.

Andrew Symonds

As Headmaster I attend all meetings of the governing body. At full meetings I submit a report on all aspects of school. I also attend committees which cover the curriculum, finance, personnel, admissions, premises and health and safety. I will answer any questions raised by the governors and keep them fully informed.

Yours sincerely

Richard Taylor School Governors



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