



Governor update newsletter

St. Anthony's Catholic Primary School

March 2026

Welcome to our Spring Term Newsletter

Welcome to our termly Governing body newsletter, the purpose of which is to keep parents informed regarding the activities of the school's Governing body.

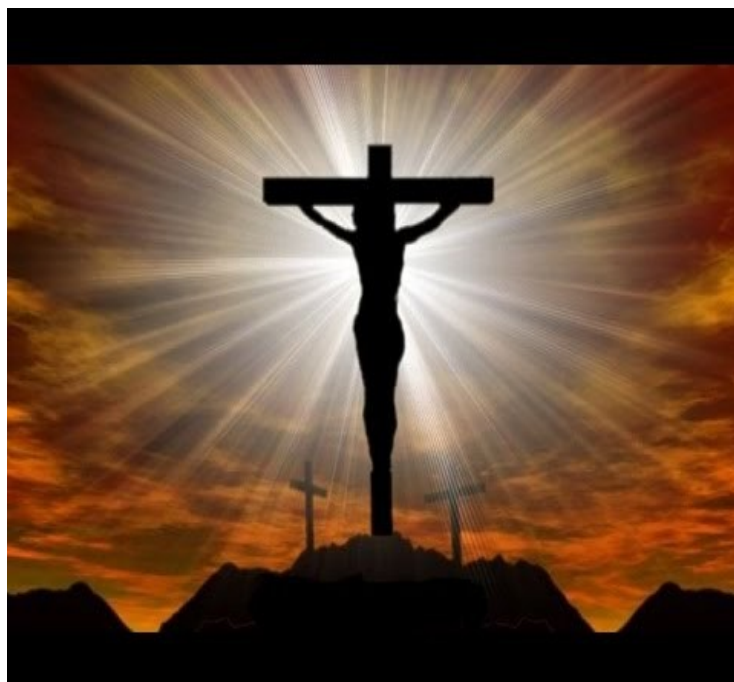
It has been a busy and rewarding term, especially with the school undergoing an OFSTED inspection. Congratulations to Mrs Straker, the SLT, all staff and our children for achieving a **Strong** rating for Attendance & Behaviour, Inclusion, and Personal Development & Wellbeing, and meeting the **Expected Standard** across all other areas. The inspectors' comment that "*Pupils leave for secondary school as academically successful, emotionally secure and socially responsible individuals*" is a wonderful endorsement of the school's work and is something we should be very proud of as a school community.

We are deeply grateful to our staff for their dedication, professionalism and unwavering commitment to our children. Thank you also to all the Governors who played their role in helping the school to prepare for the OFSTED inspection and volunteering to be interviewed by the inspectors. I am grateful for their continued support, challenge and hard work in helping maintain the highest standards across the School.

The Governors would like to extend their thanks to Michele Rix, who stepped down as a governor earlier this year after three years of valued service.

From all the Governors, we send you and your families our warmest wishes for a Happy Easter.

Torion Bowles, Chair of Governors



Who are the Governors?

Our school benefits from a dedicated Governing Body whose members bring experience from education, business, law, finance, public relations and the Diocese. The Body includes seven Foundation Governors appointed by the Bishop of Portsmouth, along with elected Staff and Parent Governors - each offering valuable insight from their professional and community perspectives.

Each year, the Governing Body completes a skills audit to confirm our strengths and identify areas for growth. When needed, additional governors are co-opted for one-year terms to further strengthen our collective expertise.

Governors attend five Full Governing Body meetings annually and each serves on a subcommittee. The Standards & Admissions Committee oversees education, attendance, safeguarding and admissions, while the Resources, Management, Audit & Risk Committee ensures strong financial oversight and a safe, well-managed school environment.

As part of our monitoring work, governors are also linked to key areas of the School Improvement Plan or the Curriculum & Provision Plan, and each governor is connected with specific classes to support teachers and deepen understanding of school life.

Name	Type	Link subject/area	Link class
Torion Bowles (Chair of Governors)	Foundation	Development & Training, PE, and School Improvement & Wider curriculum	Year 6
Katrina Straker (Headteacher)	Staff		
Lindsey Leask (Dep Headteacher)	Associate		
Fr. Ansel D'Mello	Foundation	RE	
Anne Taylor (Chair of S&A)	Foundation	High Attainers, Pupil Premium & SEND	Year 3
Gaye Perry	Foundation	Health & Safety, Phonics	Year 2
Andrew Williams (Vice Chair & Chair of R&M)	Foundation	Art & DT	
Anita Fitzpatrick	Foundation	Early Years, Safeguarding, and Pre- School	Pre-school & Year R
Kerry Meredith	Foundation	English & Computing	
Rose Leslie	Parent	PDL & Science & RSHE and Wellbeing	Year 4
Daniel Hobin	Parent	Maths	
Michael McPhillips	Co-opted	French	Year 6
Luke Bower	Co-opted	Humanities & Music	Year 5
Michelle Taylor	Staff		
Rebecca Marshman (KS2 Lead)	Staff		
Vanessa Robertson	Clerk		

Update from the Governors meetings

Below are some of the key areas looked at this term:

- The Governors supported and participated in the OFSTED inspection.
- Reflected on the outcome of the OFSTED inspection and identified areas for improvement.
- The Headteacher's Report from the Autumn term was discussed and the Governors provided scrutiny as well as challenge and praise.
- The management accounts, variances and debts were discussed and reviewed by the Resources, Management, Audit & Risk committee.
- The Responsible Officer undertook an internal audit of the school systems in March.
- All Governors attended a training session run by Hampshire Governor Services focusing on School Improvement and strategic planning.
- The Foundation Governors attended the online Diocesan Governors briefing.
- The Governors agreed the proposed Inset days for the 2026-27 Academic Year.
- The Admissions sub-committee met to consider the Year R admissions for September 2026.
- The Governors discussed the recent parent voice survey, analysed the results, and made plans for responding to the constructive feedback given by the parent body.
- Both the Standards & Admissions and the Resources, Management, Audit & Risk committees reviewed and approved several policies relating to the operation of the School and ensure compliance and best practice.
- Completed subject monitoring visits and submitted reports assessing progress against the School Improvement Plan and the Curriculum and Provision Plan.
- Submitted a formal response to the Diocesan Schools Strategy.
- The Foundation Governors have supported the School masses and the Passion play.
- The Governors have volunteered to invigilate the upcoming SATs exams in Year 6.
- Assisted with the recruitment of new staff.
- Approved and assisted with the updating of the school's website.



Governor Fund

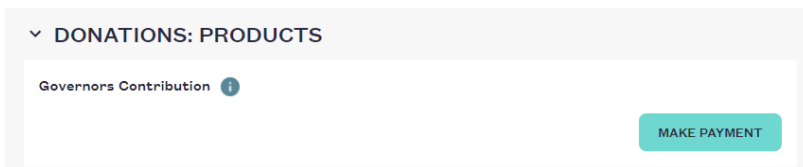
We would like to express our sincere thanks to all those parents who make voluntary contributions to the Governors School Development Fund. Many schools have a Governors voluntary fund which has helped raise much needed money to improve the quality of provision for all pupils. As I'm sure you're aware, this fund is more important than ever during the current situation to support our school. If you are not currently making a contribution, and you'd like to, the school and governors would be hugely grateful. Please ask the school office for a letter with further details as well as a Gift Aid Declaration form. Thank you.

You can donate:

- One off payment via Scopy
- Setting up a regular standing order to the school bank account

Sort-code: 30-93-17

Bank account: 39364560



▼ DONATIONS: PRODUCTS

Governors Contribution ⓘ

MAKE PAYMENT



Happy Easter



Please visit our Governor webpages to find out more. This includes a 'meet the governors' page as well as past issues of this newsletter.

<https://www.saint-anthonysfareham.co.uk/our-governors/>