



SALEHURST CHURCH OF ENGLAND & STAPLECROSS METHODIST PRIMARY SCHOOLS

✝ 'Learning with God at our side' ✝

## The Bridge Federation Governing Board Newsletter – Easter 2019

### Message from The Chair of Governors, Mrs Gill Atkinson



I would like to extend warm wishes to you all for Easter and a much deserved rest for the staff and children who have all been working so hard, let's hope we have some sunshine!

We were all deeply affected by the sad loss of Roger who was such a committed governor, he will be very sadly missed.

We are already past the half way mark for the year and our governing body is growing in strength and becoming ever more coherent. I would like to welcome our new parent governor Richard Davies, who joined us at Christmas and has already played a huge part both in meetings and through his monitoring.

As a governing body we have decided on several priorities that will take us towards becoming outstanding primary schools. Of course continually developing the curriculum and teaching are a major priority, as they are in all schools. We are looking towards a five year plan with strategic targets which will be robustly monitored and include for example the emotional health and wellbeing of children and staff. It is so important that our children feel safe, secure and happy if they are to achieve academically.

Once again thank you to all our parents who are so supportive and all who come into schools regularly to work with the children, we are all greatly appreciative and look forward to a busy, exciting and productive summer term.

### Tribute to Roger Cowap



As you are aware, very sadly, our much valued governor and colleague Roger passed away recently. Roger was one of those special people that crosses one's path from time to time, who was an absolute privilege to know. Roger was a great encourager and was full of wisdom, kindness and gentleness. He will be a huge loss to us and to many, as he was involved in various community groups and was also church treasurer for St Mary's Church in Salehurst.

Roger had been a governor since May 2016. During this time Roger supported our schools immensely with helping us move to become a Federation, he worked hard on building and improving on policy and also supported our schools enormously with the ever more difficult task of managing school finances and budget monitoring. We will be forever grateful to him.

Our most heart-felt prayers and condolences go to Roger's wife Helen and his family.



## 'Thought' of the season from The Methodist Church by Jennifer Winnington

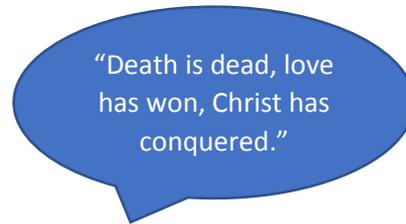
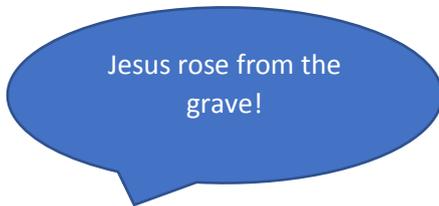


Some may say that Easter is about rabbits and chocolate but for me it is so much more! For me it is about the new life, hope and joy that Jesus offers.

From Ash Wednesday and throughout the season of Lent the story of Jesus' journey to Jerusalem is followed finishing with Holy Week:

- **Palm Sunday:** The Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem as the crowds shouted 'Hosanna'.
- **Maundy Thursday:** Jesus taking the everyday normal things of bread and wine in the upper room, saying. 'Do this in remembrance of me' and the turmoil of the Garden of Gethsemane.
- **Good Friday:** The trial, the crowd shouting 'crucify him', and Jesus' death on the cross for me and for you.

The disciples thought that the situation was hopeless, but then there was the greatest miracle, that first Easter...



The Methodist Church would like to send you Easter greetings, so that you too may discover that Easter is about so much more than chocolate, it is about love conquering death, it is about Jesus!

### Getting to know your governors



#### We would like to introduce you to a governor with each newsletter, this time please meet Mr Richard Davies, our new parent governor, who is based at Salehurst

I decided to become a parent governor as I have 3 children all of whom will progress through Salehurst over the next few years and I felt it was important to give something back to the school and the community where my family lives. So far I've attended my first governor's meeting at Staplecross and undertaken a monitoring visit at Salehurst. It has been impressive to see how committed the governors and staff are towards furthering the children's potential and I have found the work rewarding. My background is in finance so I will have a particular focus on each school's budget (all the more so, following the sad news about Roger), as well as GDPR and ICT. I've been surprised at how both schools make their resources go so far in the face of significant cut backs. Please can I encourage those of you that are reading this to consider supporting the fundraising activities, donating, or leaving a legacy as the children need your support.

### Governor vacancies

**There is currently a vacancy for a Parent Governor – we would love to hear from you if you are interested in finding out more about becoming a governor (please see the contact details at the end of the newsletter).**

## Governing Board Members

| <b>Name</b>              | <b>Governor Type and Governor Role</b>                                   | <b>Governor / School Links</b>  |
|--------------------------|--|---|
| Mrs Gill Atkinson        | Chair of Governors<br>Co-opted Governor                                  | <i>Early Years<br/>Literacy &amp; Maths<br/>Pupil Premium</i>   |
| Mrs Nicola Stephenson    | Vice Chair of Governors<br>Co-opted Governor                             | <i>Science<br/>Extended School Provision<br/>Health &amp; Safety</i>  |
| Mrs Liz Avard            | Ex-officio Governor  | <i>Federation Executive Headteacher</i>   |
| Mrs Jo Meeds             | Co-opted Governor  | <i>Head of School at Staplecross</i>  |
| Mrs Kate Robertson       | Co-opted Governor  | <i>Deputy Headteacher at Salehurst</i>  |
| Reverend Ian Pruden      | Foundation Governor  | <i>SIAMS/RE</i>   |
| Reverend Annette Hawkins | Foundation Governor  | <i>SIAMS/RE</i>   |
| Mrs Phillipa Burton      | Co-opted Governor  | <i>Healthy Lifestyles<br/>Sport<br/>Governor Training</i>   |
| Mrs Jennifer Winnington  | Foundation Governor<br>Chair of Worship and Ethos<br>Committee.          | <i>Safeguarding<br/>SIAMS/RE</i>  |
| Mrs Hayley Sharp         | Co-opted Governor<br>Chair of Teaching & Learning<br>Governing Committee | <i>SEND</i>   |
| VACANCY                  | Foundation Governor  | <i>SIAMS/RE</i>   |
| Mrs Anna Eastwood        | Co-opted Governor  | <i>Eco-Governor</i>   |
| VACANCY                  | Co-opted Governor  |   |
| Mrs Jackie Buckingham    | Staff Governor   | <i>Federation School Business Manager<br/>Governor Website / Governor Newsletter<br/>Community Cohesion</i> |
| Mr Richard Davies        | Parent Governor  | <i>Finance<br/>ICT / GDPR</i>   |
| VACANCY                  | Parent Governor  |   |
| Mrs Sarah Wilkinson      | Clerk to Governors   |   |

To help you identify The Bridge Federation Governors, you will see named photographs on the website governors' page – here is the link: <http://www.thebridgefederation.org/Governing-board>

## Governor contact details

If you would like to contact the Governors please feel free to talk to a governor in school or you can send an email to the Chair of Governors, as follows:

Gill Atkinson - [gatkinson@thebridgefederation.org](mailto:gatkinson@thebridgefederation.org)