

## Governors Report for parents– September 2016

This report aims to describe for parents the work of the governing body and some of the key decisions it is taking on your behalf. The approved minutes of the meetings are also published on the [school website](#).

### Governors update

Sarah Till-Vattier and I have been asked to continue as your co-chair of governors, and we are very happy to do so. On the foundation governor side, Raquel Anstee de Mas is continuing until we find her replacement and the process for replacing the parent governor role is well underway.

### School Council

As part of our approach to encourage and develop the children's leadership and independence skills, Mrs. Hues is developing the School Council role within the school.

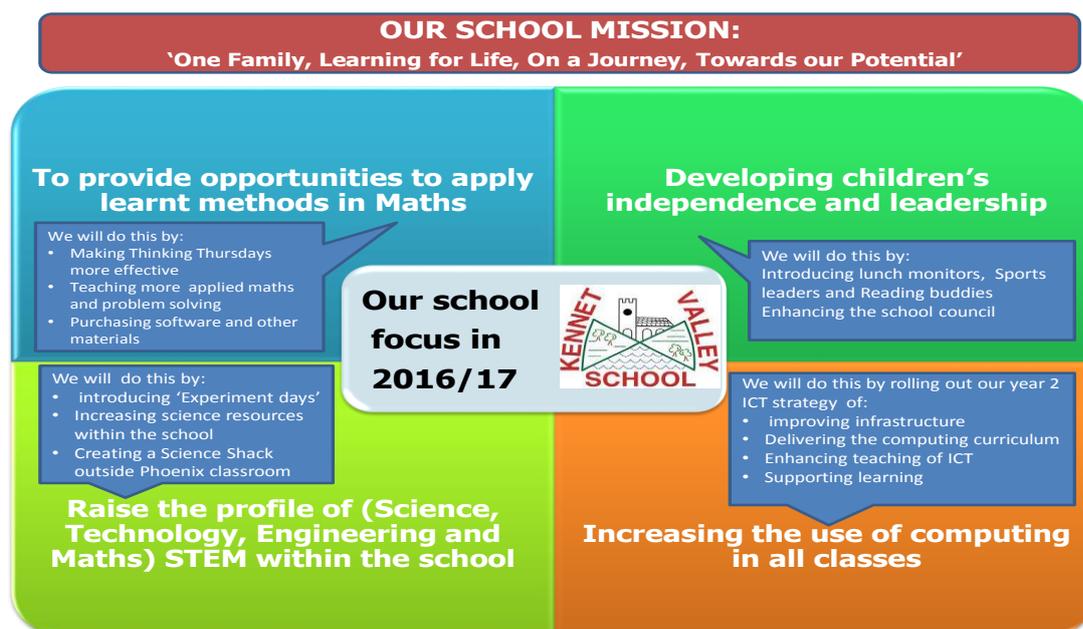
**Mission statement refresh** - The school has a mission statement and every few years we refresh it, to make sure that it reflects the ethos and aspirations of the school. So with input from the school council, teachers and governors, we have come up with the following statement that we think encapsulates the mission of the school:

**'One family learning for life, on a journey towards our potential'**

As we go through the year, we will be checking to make sure that what we do is consistent with our mission.

### Annual School Objectives

Each year we decide upon some specific objectives that we wish to focus on. This year they reflect particular curriculum areas that we wish to enhance, further technology tools that we want to introduce, and a focus on independence and leadership. At the end of the year we'll feed back on the progress we've made.



**Link Governor Subject Report** - For each key subject / theme area, the school has a subject lead teacher and link governor attached. At each governors meeting, a subject area is looked at in depth and a report presented – this time it was Safeguarding, RE and Collective Worship.

**Annual Spirit of Kennet Valley award** – At the end of last term, we awarded our Spirit of Kennet Valley Award to two pupils that in the view of the teachers, had made an outstanding contribution to the spirit and ethos of the school. Very well done to Freddie Jones and Olivia Mercer! We've put up an honour board in the school reception to honour their achievement.

### **Annual Curriculum Overview Map**

Each year the school sets out the curriculum overview for the year, as part of lesson planning, but also to enable parents to follow themes and learning throughout the year. The latest version of the map can be found on the website here: <http://kennetvalley.wilts.sch.uk/topic-webs/>

### **Ofsted**

It's now been 3 years since our last Ofsted inspection (which rated the school as 'good'), and so the school and governors are preparing, should there be a visit. This involves ensuring that the good work that we do is pulled together and easily accessible for inspectors. There are lots of schools in the area that are also waiting inspection and so we don't believe that it is imminent.

### **Friends of Kennet Valley**

Thanks to the fundraising efforts of parents, we were able to re-furbish the school staff room over the summer and turn it into a multi-use space to undertake cooking and nutrition sessions with the children. We are also very advanced in our plans with the Friends to build a gazebo structure as part of the Spiritual Garden at the back of the school which can be used in the spring and summer as an outdoor learning space.

**Homework** – Following feedback from parents, the school have reviewed homework arrangements, and are piloting a new approach with the older children. As we have said previously, for some parents the feedback is that there is too much homework, whilst from others there is not enough. Some parents have said that they find the homework corner at Dragon club useful. It is our school policy to set homework activities in line with the topics children are covering, and to encourage parents to support their children with homework, but at the end of the day it will always be voluntary.

I hope that you have found this interesting – if you have any feedback or have a question, then please send us an email via [admin@kennetvalley.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@kennetvalley.wilts.sch.uk).

**Rob Gittins and Sarah Till-Vattier, Co-Chair of Governors**