



Welcome to the Autumn term newsletter from the governing body of Bentley Church of England V.C and Copdock Primary Schools.



Jo Austin
Headteacher



Dennis Kell
Chair



Simon Hurst
Vice Chair



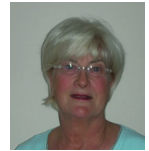
Rev Don
Meheh



Louise
Amphlett-Lewis



Tracey Deakin



Ruth Lincoln



Mark Blackwell



Rachael Rudge



Tony Wright



Mark Starling



Grant Houlden



Martin Taylor



Paul Kerslake

Learning Spaces

This term has seen the development of the school building at Bentley, with the new conservatory finally completed and being fully utilised by Adders class. This additional space has been a fantastic extension to the classroom area, enabling the children to be more creative in their approaches to learning and have a quiet space for reflection and focus where required. Our next goal is to raise funds to install a sink and blinds before the summer term. The PTA have been a great support in developing the classroom environments this year and we hope to engage parents and children more actively in the new year to enhance our provision further.

After a great deal of deliberation at Copdock, we are pleased to finally announce that we are also extending part of the school building by attaching a conservatory to the rear of Foxes workroom. Due to the steady increase in pupil numbers, it has been necessary to store many of our resources in different spaces around the school. Whilst this has enabled full use of classroom spaces for the children's learning it has been a challenge to find space for everything. This new project will enable us to once again reorganise the use of space more effectively, supporting many areas of the curriculum. It will hopefully house the majority of our school library over time too.

The PTA, Staff, Governors and Parish Council have been a strong driving force in making this project possible. As detailed at the Christmas Fayre, due to financial commitments from PTA funds, Parish Council grants and carefully budgeted school plans, we are now in a position to fund the basic build of the conservatory around Easter time. However, we are still driving fund raising efforts to ensure the shell becomes a purposefully designed workspace. After Christmas we will be launching the next stage of our enterprise plan and look forward to engaging children and parents in bringing it to life.

Watch this space!

Ofsted

The Governing Body were delighted with the outcome of the Ofsted inspection at Copdock last July. Although the wait was extremely long, the report showed a very good understanding about all that goes on in the school and the hard work put in by all staff and children who are clearly well-supported at home. The report also recognised the contribution of both governors and the PTA, which was very well received.

With Copdock maintaining its status as an outstanding school and Bentley already recognised as good, everyone should be assured that our children are being very well-equipped for their future lives.

It is nearly three years since Bentley was inspected last so the school community will be ensuring that they are ready to show everyone how they are continuing to improve.

PTAs - Thank you!

Governors are always aware of how much work is done by the PTAs in both schools to raise funds. This enhances the education of our children in many different ways. The whole Governing Body would like to express our sincere gratitude to everyone who has been involved with the PTAs in fund-raising and supporting their school. Your contribution is really valuable and appreciated by everyone – especially the children.

We should like to encourage all parents to support the events organised by the PTAs. Not only do they help to provide valuable extra resources for the schools but they are also enjoyable social events.

Thanks again to everyone involved.

Governor Monitoring

This term, besides meeting regularly to monitor all aspects of the schools' management and finances, governors have visited the school to see children and teachers at work in maths, PE, literacy and e-safety amongst other lessons. They have also ensured that the website meets its statutory requirements, conducted health and safety reviews. Governors were also present at open evenings.

During the next term, we shall be asking for parent's views on the spiritual and moral education in our schools. This will be through a simple questionnaire that can be completed online and we should urge you to spend a few moments completing this in the spring.

SATs Results

Many of you will have seen the article in the local press regarding Copdock's SAT results, where 100% of pupils reached the expected standard in reading, writing and maths, a fantastic achievement all round!

This represents a further endorsement of the continued improvement at both schools along with the drive to develop confident, responsible and successful individuals and governors are delighted to join in congratulating all staff and children.

Season's Greetings!!

All governors would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone in our school communities the very best wishes for the coming season and a happy and successful new year.