

NEWSLETTER

July 2015 / Issue 1

www.raglanprimaryschool.co.uk

New Faces

Ms Kath Margetts



Ms Margetts joins Raglan from September as our new Headteacher. Ms Margetts comes to Raglan from Turnham Primary School in Lewisham where she is currently Head of School. Prior to this appointment, she was Deputy Head at two schools within the Brindishe Federation (a federation of three "Outstanding" schools). Ms Margetts has been visiting Raglan in the lead up to September and we are sure she is keen to get to know her new pupils and parents.

Ms Danielle Wood



We are also pleased to welcome Ms Danielle Wood as Deputy Headteacher commencing this September. Ms Wood was previously at Burnt Ash Primary and will be a great asset to the Senior Leadership Team.

We are sure you will welcome both these key members of the team to Raglan and we hope you will have a chance to meet them in person soon.

Welcome to the first edition of the Raglan Primary School Governors' Newsletter.

Our newsletter will be issued on at least an annual basis to keep you up to date with what is happening inside the Governing Body and to let you know how our School is progressing. This year has seen some significant changes within Raglan and we thank you for your continued support. The Governing Body is focused on continuous improvement in all aspects of School life and we will be working with our new Senior Leadership Team to review the School's vision for the next three to five years. This is an exhilarating time for Raglan and we look forward to embracing change while retaining the special character that makes our School great.



What is the Governing Body and why do we need one?

As an Academy, our School has greater freedom in decision making about the future of the School and assumes responsibilities previously dealt with by the Local Authority. Governors set the strategic vision of the School and support the Headteacher and staff in delivering that vision while assuring financial accountability.

Who are the Governing Body?

The Governing Body at Raglan is a dedicated group of civic-minded individuals who are committed to continuous learning and development. There are thirteen Governors on our board including:

- Appointed Governors from the local community
- Parent Governors elected by the parent body
- Staff Governors elected by the staff of Raglan
- Co-opted governors who are appointed for a specific skill
- Headteacher

More information about our Governing Body is available on the School's web site:

www.raglanprimaryschool.co.uk/our-school-2/governors/

Raglan launches a brand new

Computing Lab



The new curriculum introduced nationally this year includes a major new module on Computing. More than ever, computers are playing a significant part in everyday life and our children need to be able to capitalise on the opportunities that technology offers.

At the very top of the school, surrounded by the wealth of information stored on the library shelves, is a door that leads to a superhighway of learning.

Information Technology has always been part of School life at Raglan and for many years students have learnt how to use technology to carry out a

multitude of tasks that will help them in everyday life. However, how many of us know how a computer program actually works? The new curriculum introduced nationally this year seeks to demystify the workings of the computer

and produce a truly computer literate generation who can not only use computers but control them.

From early in Key Stage 1, children are

How many of us know how a computer program actually works?

encouraged to explore the computing that surrounds them everyday. They are introduced to the idea of algorithms; how a computer follows a series of steps to reach its goal. By the time they reach Key Stage 2, the sky is the limit as

children are encouraged to code their own games and applications.

Following the replacement of the networking infrastructure last year, the new Computing Lab is the second step in a major investment program that will bring Raglan in line with the forefront of technology.

The Computing Lab provides an up-to-date learning environment for the exploration of computing with new software supporting cross curriculum learning. Raglan's new Computing Lab is a gateway to possibilities.

Computing Lab (The Specification)

- 30 Dell SSD MS Windows 7 Student Computers - Each with 22" monitor, web cam and headphones
- 1 Dell SSD MS Windows 7 Teacher Computer with AB Tutor software allowing control and demo of all student computers
- New SMART interactive white board and projector
- Microsoft Office 2013 Software
- 2Simple Purple Mash Software Suite
- Up to 50% more energy efficient



Raising the Roof?

New roof project gets green light.



Over the summer holidays, we are literally bringing the roof down following a successful funding bid to replace our ageing Key Stage 2 roof.

As you can appreciate, the demands of a listed building such as Raglan are high but the School is committed to protecting this vital part of what makes our School such an inspiring learning environment. Soon the scaffold will go up around the entire KS2 building as specialist workers take on the laborious task of removing and replacing by hand over 10,000 tiles. We hope that the works will be completed by the time we



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come back to School in September but, like all large scale projects, there is always an element of the unknown so we will keep you posted of any developments that may affect the arrangements for entering and leaving the School in September.

Building improvements are a constant cycle at Raglan and this new roof will lead the way for future funding bids to replace the KS1 roof and upgrade more of the windows throughout the School to make us more environmentally friendly. Already this year, our ageing boilers have been replaced with new, more energy efficient models that make Raglan greener than ever in the coming winter.

We would like to thank all involved in the roof bid for their tireless work and dedication which will allow us to continue to provide a safe and dry environment for our children.



Late News...

The final weeks of the year have been a busy time for the School and we look forward to further development and growth in the new academic year.

2014-15 has been a challenging year for Raglan. There have been ups and downs and it has been at tribute to the resilience of the School community that our School has continued to strengthen and improve.

As you will be aware, Ofsted Inspectors visited our School on July 7th and 8th. They performed a thorough investigation of all aspects of the School and their findings will be available in early September. Thank you to Parents who took the time to complete the Parent View survey. Regardless of the Ofsted outcomes, this has identified some areas that we need to improve; in particular, communication regarding your child's progress and we will be addressing this in the next year.

We would like to say a special thank you to Mrs Birleanu who came to Raglan at short notice. She has led our school with

passion and inspired all around her to be the best they can be. On behalf of the whole School community, we would like to thank her for giving her time to our School and we wish her the very best of luck on her next adventure.

Mr Dalton came to us as Deputy Headteacher on secondment and has worked tirelessly behind the scenes in numerous areas to improve the provision for our children at Raglan. His work is greatly appreciated and we wish him well in the future.

We would like to applaud our dedicated and talented staff for their commitment and tireless drive for improvement. In particular, our Senior Leadership and newly formed Monitoring and Evaluation Team (MET) who invest so much in Raglan.

There are several Governors who are leaving us this year; Louise Green, Phil Denman, Linda Rodin and Sandra Worth have dedicated many years to the Governing Body and their achievements are numerous.

Lastly we would like to thank you, our parents and carers, whose support has been invaluable this year. Whether you have volunteered with the Friends Of Raglan, acted as a Class Rep or helped in School, your time and support is immensely appreciated.



Community Governors

Phil Denman
Louise Green
Scott Pinder
Helena Smith
Ann Woollins
Linda Rodin

Parent Governors

Jeremy Cox
Jane Evans
Sandra Worth
Scott George

Co-opted Governor

Rob Harris

Staff Governors

Angela Brown
Alison Dumper

Committees 2014-15

Chair of Governors

Ann Woollins

Vice Chairs (Shared)

Scott George, Sandra Worth

Finance / Buildings & Sites Committee

Rob Harris (Chair), Sandra Worth, Scott Pinder, Helena Smith, Phil Denman

Achievement Committee

Ann Woollins (Chair), Jane Evans, Jeremy Cox, Alison Dumper, Linda Rodin

Parent, Pupil and Community Committee

Scott George (Chair), Jeremy Cox, Angela Brown, Jane Evans

Personnel Committee

Louise Green (Chair), Jane Evans

If you have any questions related to the strategic direction of the School, please get in touch with us via the School office.