



## Moss Hey Primary School

Summer Term 2017 | Governor Newsletter | Issue no. 4

### Welcome to the Summer Term Governor Newsletter

As we draw to the end of another academic year, we would like to take the opportunity to say goodbye to Mrs Gibson, who leaves us this term, and to thank her for the wonderful contribution she has made to Moss Hey over the last 16 years. Miss Davidson has been appointed as our new Year 1 teacher, and we are looking forward to welcoming her to the Moss Hey family from September.

In this newsletter, we will look back over the Summer term and share our learning from our development focus on Special Educational Needs (SEN) and provide an update on our findings from a Staff Voice activity.

However, to open the newsletter, we'd like to ask you to put your hands together for our marvellous PTA.

#### OUR AMAZING PTA – THANK YOU!

The PTA has made a huge difference to Moss Hey this year through raising an amazing £13,500. From School Discos to the first ever Oktoberfest, from the Moss Hey Big Bash (*pictured right*) to the Summer Fair, there have been some fantastic fundraising events, which together have made 2016/17 one of our most successful fundraising years ever! Thank you to **Chris, Lou, Ruth, Charlotte and Livy** for all their time and hard work, and thank you to all the parents who have supported the events. We really do appreciate it!



### STAFF VOICE

One of the things that ensures Moss Hey stands out, as well as its excellence and high standards, is without a doubt, the brilliant teaching and support team. This term, Governors introduced a new session to gauge Staff thoughts and opinions. Governors had the opportunity to sit down and talk to staff about their views on teaching at the school and to find out their ideas on anything that Moss Hey could do better. Here's a snapshot of what we found out.

"It's a warm and friendly school to teach in. This can be seen in the way the children behave. They are happy and relaxed, and feel comfortable approaching any member of staff if

"I've worked in lots of other schools and Moss Hey is by far the friendliest. There's a warm and open culture, which is really special"

"The new communications meeting recently introduced is working really well. It makes sure everyone is clear on what is happening when, and by looking ahead, diffuses any situations by identifying them before they happen"

"The new Behaviour System introduced last year is working brilliantly. It means that everyone is working to the same boundaries across the different year groups, and knows what to expect"

"It's a very supportive team. Everyone mucks in if they need to, to get the job done"

This feedback was fantastic to hear and made us feel very proud to be part of the school. But what feedback did we receive in terms of what could be done better at Moss Hey? Here are a few of the suggestions:

Funding for full sets of reading books in Years 5 & 6 | To make the House reward prize more appealing to older children by extending from one hour of fun to one afternoon of fun | To introduce more consistency in the teaching assistant support in KS2 | To make better use of the outside space in Year 1 | For there to be extra space for breakout sessions.

Following the Staff Voice session, Governors met with Mrs Smith to talk through the feedback, and steps have already been taken to make the improvements suggested by the team.

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## FOCUS ON SEN

Each term, the Governing Body takes part in a Term Focus, which aims to develop Governor awareness and understanding of specific areas of teaching, learning and the curriculum. This term, Governors set out to explore and learn more about Special Educational Needs (SEN). Here is an overview of what we found out.



-Every school is required by law to have a SEN Coordinator and follow a code of practice. Mrs Smith takes this role at Moss Hey and leads SEN development and activity.

-There is a wide range of SEN at Moss Hey and some of these needs are met through a 1:1 support assistant as they have an EHC plan.

-An EHC plan is a legal document that describes a child's special educational, health and social care needs. It explains the extra help that will be given to meet those needs and how the help given will support the child to achieve what they want in their life.

-Along with having close links with the Local Authority SEN team, Moss Hey staff work with a number of outside agencies and we have an excellent relationship with Primary Jigsaw, Learning Support Service, Primary Behavior Support Service, Occupational Health, Speech and Language and the Educational Psychology Service. This multi-agency approach ensures we meet the needs of our pupils as best we can.

If you are interested in reading more about SEN go to <https://www.gov.uk/children-with-special-educational-needs/overview>



**We wish everyone in the Moss Hey family a very Happy Summer Holiday.**



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Through sharing a snapshot of our involvement at the school via this newsletter each term, we hope to give parents' insight into the role and work of Moss Hey's Governing Body. If there are any questions or topics you'd like to be covered in this Summer issue, please email

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