



Goodbye year 6 and hello new reception children

It is always with a mixture of sadness and excitement that we say goodbye to our year 6 leavers. Sadness at losing such a great class who worked so hard for their SATS exams and who have been fantastic role models for the years below. Excitement that our year 6 leavers are taking their experiences and learning from Sheering School and going out to new adventures at their secondary schools and beyond. Please keep in touch and remember you will always be welcome back at Sheering School.

It is also an exciting time for all our new pupils starting school in September. Sheering is a warm and supportive place to learn and we hope you will really enjoy your first days and weeks in school, just as our year 6 leavers did seven years ago.

Ofsted – Well done everyone!

Hopefully you've all had the chance to read the fantastic report published by Ofsted last month following Sheering School's inspection in May. Sheering school was awarded a 'Good' rating which is a huge step improvement from our previous inspection just over two years ago. The governing body would like to take this opportunity to thank the whole school community for their hard work and commitment in the lead up to and during the Ofsted inspection.

Ofsted week is an extremely challenging time for the teaching staff of any school. Mrs Brittain and the whole teaching staff did a fantastic job of showing off everything that is great about Sheering School. We must also thank the pupils who made the inspector very welcome by answering all the inspectors' questions and showing off their work with pride. We'd also like to thank all the parents/carers who filled in the Ofsted Parent View questionnaire. Again this was another demonstration to the inspector that Sheering has made a step improvement in education provision with a very positive overall assessment coming from a large number of responses.

The hard work doesn't slow down now however, the school leadership and Governors are keen to accelerate progress as we head down the path towards 'Outstanding'. In the meantime, we hope you take great pride in telling your friends, family and neighbours about the Ofsted Good School your children attend.

Letter from the Chair of the Governors

Welcome to this summer issue of Key Stage, the Sheering School Governors' newsletter.

What a fantastic term this has been for all of us involved with the school. One of the most memorable things about Ofsted was the moment when Mrs Brittain told everyone in the staff room about the Ofsted 'Good' rating, some of us governors were in school and heard the screams of joy and happiness! Our congratulations go to all the staff for a well-deserved 'Good' judgement.

Then there have been the celebrations for the 200th anniversary of the founding of the school. You'll agree we've come a long way since Reverend Tutte created a trust fund to teach 12 girls to read and sew!

The Governing Body has been working hard with the committee meetings, our termly governors' meeting and monitoring visits by individual governors. The new resources committee formed from Finance and Premises has been working well in this trial year so it has been decided to continue with this approach.

This will be my last report as Chair as I have decided to stand down from governance after 20 years. It has been my privilege to work with 3 head teachers, many staff and all my colleagues on the Governing Body and to serve the school.

The Governors wish you all a happy Summer holiday and look forward to another successful year in September.

Best Wishes **Linda Ainsworth**

Bishops Visit

We were very pleased to welcome the Bishop of Barking to our School on Tuesday 21st June to start off the Schools 200 year anniversary celebrations. The Bishop visited each of the classrooms where the children had an opportunity to ask him questions about his job and faith. The Bishop was very impressed with the questions asked by the children and he commented that we definitely have some theologians and philosophers in School! The Bishop was very impressed with the Christian Ethos of our school and he could see how well everyone in School cares for one another.

200th Anniversary Tea Party

To celebrate an amazing 200 years of Sheering school the staff and PTFA organised a wonderful tea party for all the children and some special guests. In a bunting bedecked playground the children enjoyed an array of treats and thanked all those involved by singing a selection of songs beautifully. In addition the PTFA have given every child a 200th anniversary commemorative mug bearing a lovely picture of Sheering School drawn by Charlie Bishop of Copeland class. A big thank you to all involved in the tea party organisation and Mrs Kirby for the cupcake gifts given to all the children. Happy Birthday Sheering School.

Pupil Premium – Reminder

Now that all reception and key stage 1 pupils get automatic free school meals, parents/carers need to be aware that the school receives an additional £1320 of funding for every child who would otherwise have been entitled to free school meals. This funding called Pupil Premium is available where a parent/carer claims one or more of the following:

- Universal Credit.
- Income Support or Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income of £16,190 or less.

If you think you may qualify or if your circumstances should change, you can talk to Mrs Brittain in confidence to check/apply for entitlement. For a small school like Sheering, every penny counts.

Farewell to Linda

At our last Governing Body Meeting we said Goodbye to Linda Ainsworth who has been Chair of Governors for seven years and on the Governing Body at Sheering School for almost twenty years. Before becoming a School Governor Linda was an active member of the PTFA organising various events to raise funds whilst her four children were pupils at the School. Over the years Linda has been involved in recruiting a number of teachers and also two head teachers of our school. Linda has worked extremely hard giving up an enormous amount of her time to strengthen and lead the work of the Governing Body. We will miss her extensive knowledge of the School and Governance and hope that she will take pride in the fact that the school has now been judged as Good by Ofsted. We hope that Linda will enjoy spending more time with her family and we thank her for all that she has contributed to the life of our School.

Welcome to Pamela

At the same meeting we voted and welcomed Pamela Gaines as Chair of the Sheering School Governing Board replacing Linda Ainsworth. Pamela is familiar face at Sheering School, she attended here as a pupil, sent her three children here and has been a governor for six years. Whilst being a Governor, Pamela has chaired the Personnel and Curriculum committee and brings a wealth of experience to the role.

Be a Governor – We have a Vacancy

We have a vacancy for a Parent Governor at Sheering School. We're looking for a person to join the team and help make a positive contribution to the lives of the pupils. You'll be offered a warm welcome, induction training, and a mentor to help you get up to speed. For more detailed information about the role of a Governor go to the [National Governors Association](http://www.nationalgovernors.org.uk) website which has lots of useful insight. If you would like to apply or talk to a current governor about the role in the first instance send an email to Helen in the office: admin@sheering.essex.sch.uk