



Governors Winter Term Newsletter

Your school values: Friendship. Opportunity. Resilience. Empathy. Self-Awareness. Teamwork

BE A PART OF OUR COMMUNITY

Core to our vision for the school is increasing parental involvement and we have a number of ways in which parents can be a part of our 'Inspirational Community'. We understand that many of our parents work through the day and have other demands on their time. That said, we want to make as many opportunities as possible for parents to interact with school whatever their circumstances.

Book Looks

Mr Wheeler will be communicating next terms Book Look Days shortly. This is a great opportunity for you to pop in and take a look at the work your child would love to share with you in addition to Parents Evenings.

Coffee Mornings

The Library is open every Friday morning after school opens for parents who don't have to rush off to stop and chat with one another before heading on with their day. Younger siblings are welcome to spend time with the books and tea and coffee are available at no charge.

First of all, the board of governors would like to thank all of our children for their contribution to making this another wonderful term at Steeton Primary School. Our team of staff have worked exceptionally hard once again this term to both maintain adherence to the curriculum and provide a diverse set of learning experiences. Highlights include the expansion of the Forest School, the range of school trips, the recent 'Art Day' and the visits from some great speakers from Primary Futures encouraging the children to think about the many different careers they might aspire to in the future.

Recently the Senior Leadership Team and Board of Governors met to discuss where we wanted to take the school over the next 3 years.

Our Vision for the school is that Steeton Primary School is **"Your Inspirational Community"**. Children, staff and parents creating a diverse community that reaches beyond the school gates.

This is what that means to both the Governors and the wider school team.

"We inspire children to be happy and confident, thriving in a safe and inclusive school.

We are approachable and honest.

Our staff are valued, empowered and supported to deliver the best for every child"

We believe that these words will already resonate with parents. They certainly do with the staff and governors. However, we very much invite ideas from parents on how we can fulfil this in even greater ways. Get in touch at office@steeton.bradford.sch.uk with the title 'FAO Governors'.

Can You Help?

If you or anyone you know in our local community could spare a little time to read with our children, please do contact Mrs Kennedy and let her know. Reading aloud significantly impacts both our children's confidence and comprehension and volunteers to support this will be warmly welcomed! Let Mrs Kennedy know how much time you would be able to share with us at Sharmyn.kennedy@steeton.bradford.sch.uk

BE A PART OF OUR COMMUNITY

Become a Parent Governor

We welcome applications from parents from across our school community to contribute further to school life by volunteering to stand as a Parent Governor. Becoming a governor is very rewarding for anyone who wants to understand more about how the school runs and performs and to represent the views of parents within our decision making. We have a 2 hour full board meeting one evening per half term and an optional 2 hour Finance meeting once per half term which is during the school day. Times and dates are negotiated to try and allow for governors additional commitments (the majority of us also work full time). There is some additional work in supporting one of the 'Link Governor' topics which can be selected according to your preference and experience, if relevant. Please do not think that a Governor role is not for you based on anything other than your ability to give a little time. All backgrounds and levels of experience are welcome. Please email Janice.atwood@steeton.bradford.sch.uk if you are interested.

Do you qualify to get further funding for the school?

Is your child entitled to Free School Meals?

Are you entitled to or claim any of the following?

- **Universal credit**
- **Income support**
- **Jobseekers allowance**
- **Support under the Immigration and Asylum Act**
- **Child tax credit (with income restrictions)**

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Pupil Premium was introduced in 2011 as a way of enabling schools to gain further funds to support children who are also entitled to free school meals. For every child of primary school age who qualifies, a further £1320 per year is available for the school. However, the school is unable to access these funds unless a parent has registered for Free School Meals, including those who will automatically receive them in Reception/KS1. We have reason to believe that we are not receiving the full amount that our children are entitled to here at Steeton. However we are powerless to change this, we need your help.

Pupil premium money is spent through the school in a variety of ways which must be directly linked to better outcomes for children.

Even if your child does not eat school meals, if they are entitled to Free School Meals because you are entitled to any of the above benefits then you can register for them and then advise the school that you do not want the meal. If you receive any of the above but your child is in Reception or KS1 and you automatically receive Free School Meals, we still won't receive this funding if you do not actively register. £1320 is a huge amount of money in the current climate. Please help us to access these funds.

For any advice or support on how to make this claim, please contact Mrs Kennedy at sharmyn.kennedy@steeton.bradford.sch.uk or go ahead and register at <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>.

It really only takes a minute and could make a great impact on the school.

We wish all our community an excellent break over the festive season and look forward to seeing you all in January. Merry Christmas!