



## Speen Church of England School

Flowers Bottom Lane, Speen,

Princes Risborough, Bucks, HP27 0SX

Tel/Fax: 01494 488321

Website: [www.speen-cofe.bucks.sch.uk](http://www.speen-cofe.bucks.sch.uk)

E-mail: [office@speen-cofe.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:office@speen-cofe.bucks.sch.uk)  
[governors@speen-cofe.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:governors@speen-cofe.bucks.sch.uk)

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Dear Parents,

Much of the governors' work this term has involved assisting with the preparation and completion of an externally moderated Health and Safety audit. It was an exhausting process for the staff and particular governors and they are to be commended for remaining calm throughout the process.

We have been very active examining our budget for the forthcoming year given that funding for schools is such a contentious issue at the moment. It distresses us hugely to consider the implications of budget cuts enforced by government and with the removal of Free School Meals, another feature of the Conservative manifesto, our lunch service would close. To illustrate this I urge you to check this link and, regardless of your political persuasion, register a protest to our prospective MPs seeking election on 8<sup>th</sup> June:

<http://schoolcuts.org.uk/#!/schools?chosenSchool=8253340>

The figures are quite alarming not just for our school but for others in the locality and the reality of teaching staff loss at our school is a harsh one. Let us hope that sense and successful protest prevent this. You will also be aware from our previous updates at PTA meetings that governors continue to explore the idea of joining an existing Multi Academy Trust (MAT) and this may be crucial to our survival.

In April we opened our doors to prospective parents once again and a bi-annual open morning will be part of our promotion of the school. The large signs placed at various road junctions have hopefully increased our profile in the area. A new visitor pack will shortly be available for distribution and I would like to kindly request you to give a copy to a friend, relative or neighbour who you know may be looking for an infant school place in the near future. If you have any particular expertise in marketing or PR you may have some amazing ideas to share with us on how we can promote our school. We would love to hear from you.

We continue to search for two parent governors to join us because Katherine Matthews will now continue as a foundation governor (appointed by the church) rather than a parent governor. Al Scott has stepped down from his duties and Leanne Warner (associate governor) will be moving in July. We thank both of them for their valuable contributions. The role of the parent governor is not too onerous and in our experience often suits busy people adept at juggling careers and home life. A commitment of time is required each term and to simplify I have attached a summarised version of the role. We are sorry that no one currently feels able to put himself or herself forward as a parent governor but we do urge you to reconsider because it is so important to have the views of parents represented.

Yours sincerely,

Eamonn Barrett  
Chair of Governors