

## **Shelford School 2018/19**

A major event in the past year was the change of Headteacher. We said farewell to Alison Evans after almost 15 years and welcomed Chris Grey – the first man to head the school for 30 years. Whilst we aren't going through a revolution he has introduced a good number of changes within the school, and there is no doubt that we are thriving under new leadership. Other new staff have also settled in well; one of them will be getting married in the parish church later this year, with the school choir invited to participate in the service.

Governors hosted a farewell party for Mrs Evans and two other long-serving teachers - Sue Jenkins who retired from the Reception Class and Mike Paduano who retired from Year 6 but has come back on a 1-day a week basis in Year 5.

There is considerable pressure for school places, and all classes are full with the exception of Year 6 which for a number of reasons has been short of its full complement. Looking ahead, this pressure is a potential issue for the village, as there are likely to be increasing numbers of children living in the village but unable to get a place in the school.

Having previously announced our intention to pursue membership of the Diocese of Ely Multi Academy Trust, governors have undertaken further review and have decided that for the time being remaining under the Local Authority is the best arrangement for the interests of our pupils. We will, however, keep this under annual review.

The PTA has gone from strength to strength under the leadership of first Maria Lazarus and now Alison Melton. A development this year was to hold the Christmas Fair at the Memorial Hall as a joint event with the Parish Council, supporting our wish to integrate the school as much as possible within the village community. It was a great success and will be repeated this year on Sunday December 1<sup>st</sup>.

We are very grateful for all the support that we receive from people and organisations in the village. The Bunch once again made us a generous donation from the Feast, and we were delighted that the children were again able to contribute musically on that Sunday afternoon.

Peter Ede  
Chair of Governors