



# Vale School Governors' Association Cymdeithas Llywodraethwyr Ysgolion y Fro and Governor Support Unit

## Newsletter



### Note from the Chair

Exams have changed since my day. I have just been watching my son who is a maths teacher marking examination papers. He has signed up as a GCSE examiner this year. In the not so distant past this would have meant large parcels of paper arriving on the doorstep and lots of red ink flowing. Now the 'papers' pop up question by question on his computer screen, just as the candidates wrote them three weeks ago. He can check angles with a coloured overlay or zoom in on dubiously written numbers or formulas. The software does all the adding up of marks and allocating grades. He has three weeks to mark some seventeen thousand questions.

If he has a query he can email the Chief Examiner and get a quick response, sometimes surprisingly quick. This morning, he posted a query before six a.m., and received an instant reply. The Chief Examiner is obviously also an insomniac.

If examination boards move with the times, so must schools. In mid June, the latest seminar run by the Vale Governors Association looked at one of

the latest initiatives from the Welsh Assembly Government, the Schools Effectiveness Framework. Dylan Jones, Head Teacher at Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg is taking part in one of the pilot programmes, and gave us the benefit of his direct experience on what it is and how it will work.

At its core the framework is about schools at all levels sharing experience and working cooperatively for the common good of pupils. It is about spreading good practice, pooling ideas and improving standards. This is going to be an important issue for all schools in the Vale in the next year as it is rolled out over Wales. It all sounds excellent - if we can afford it in these straightened times.

In the meantime, may I wish you a well-earned summer break, with the hope that you return invigorated whatever the new academic year brings this September.

**Martin Price**

**Chair of VSGA and Vice-Chair of Governors, St Richard Gwyn Roman Catholic High School, Barry**

### Restructuring of the Vale School Improvement Service

The Vale School Improvement Service is in the process of being restructured to reflect the need to respond effectively to the broader Children's Services Agenda, to increase the capacity of the service to respond to an ever increasing diverse range of needs and to align ourselves more strategically with our Consortium Partner Authorities.

The new structure centres on the establishment of Strategy Teams within specific areas e.g. Foundation Phase, Leadership and Management, Curriculum Development and the Secondary Phase (including 14-19).

Team Leader posts for each Strategy Team are currently being advertised and it is anticipated that appointments will take place before the end of the summer term.

**Lynette Jones**

**Head of Achievement**

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### Issue 17 Summer Term 2009

#### Special points of interest:

- AVAGO was formed in 1996 and re-launched in 2006 as Vale School Governors' Association (VSGA)
- The Management Committee is made up of 15 elected governors together with 2 elected parent governor representatives
- VSGA was set up to:
- Promote best practice in governance in schools within the Vale of Glamorgan LEA
- To promote partnership amongst schools and between schools and the LEA
- To work with stakeholders to ensure adequate resources for schools within the LEA
- To represent the Association's views on issues relating to school governance and the management and resourcing of schools to relevant authorities and organisations

# School Investment Strategy

Many Governors will be aware that the development of school buildings across Wales has depended largely on funding from the Welsh Assembly Government (WAG) through the School Buildings Improvement Grant (SBIG), supplemented with Councils' own capital funding. This has enabled limited development to take place and it is widely acknowledged that significant investment is now required to bring school buildings up to a standard fit for the 21st Century.

In recognition of this, WAG is working closely with the WLGA and Local Authorities to develop a 21st Century Schools Programme. This will see a significant increase in the amount of accessible funding in the future. Local Authorities will be required to develop proposals on an area rather than individual school basis and to work closely with other council departments, and agencies to ensure sustainable solutions to wider community needs. This work will result in an overarching Strategic Development Plan for all of the Vale's Schools, which will form the basis of the Investment Strategy going forward.

We are currently in a transitional phase during which time SBIG will be phased out and funding levels increased incrementally over a three year period as the 21st Century Schools Programme is developed.

In tandem with work being carried out on the Strategic Development Plan we are continuing to make progress with implementing the current Schools Investment Strategy.

Many will be aware that in March of this year the Local Authority successfully secured £5,000,000 under the transitional funding arrangements to complete the re-development of Cowbridge Comprehensive School.

The Cabinet recently approved £750,000 funding to carry out development works at St Cyres School. This will enable us to advance the scheme to the point at which work could commence on site should we be successful in securing the necessary funding from the WAG. In developing the scheme we will be working closely with colleagues in Leisure and Health to ensure that wider community needs are considered.

A bid for funding to carry out development works at Llantwit Major Comprehensive School will be submitted to WAG during June.

**Paula Ham**  
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## Education 2015

Headteachers, Governor Representatives, Teaching Associations, Education Partners and staff across the Authority have been working to develop Education 2015, a vision for Education Services within the Vale of Glamorgan.

The document has been designed to clarify purpose, restate values and identify the strategic Education priorities which will apply through to 2015.

In a context of financial constraint, increasing expectations, conflicting demands and a multiplicity of educational initiatives, the value of coherent educational priorities which can provide the basis for longer term planning, has been welcomed.

Priorities identified are:-

- Meeting the needs of vulnerable groups of learners
- Engaging parents and carers in learning processes
- Improving the learning environment
- Raising pupil attainment
- Extending Post 16 learning

Each priority will be supported by explicit outcome measures to ensure that 'Education 2015' offers not just vision, but a practical pathway for improvement.

The vision has evolved since it was warmly received by Governors at the last Annual Conference. It is now being presented to Elected Members for approval prior to being launched across the service. Copies will be supplied to all school governors.

**Bryan Jeffreys**  
Director of Learning and Development

# The Role of the Parent Governor

This can on occasions be a difficult role and sometimes one that is misunderstood, not so much by parent governors themselves but by those that elect them i.e. parents. Parent governors are representative parents rather than representatives of parents. As such they do not have to try to represent the views of all parents, and in any event will find it difficult if not impossible to do so. Nevertheless, they should as far as is reasonable try and communicate with parents about issues that arise and at meetings of the governing body provide other governors with a sense of how parents are feeling on any given matter. However, when decisions have to be made by the governing body, each parent governor is free to vote in accordance with his/her own views and must try to judge what is in the interests of all the pupils. The important thing to remember is that once a decision has been made, irrespective of whether parent governors supported it or not, then their loyalty is to the governing body and they should not get into a position of taking sides with individual or groups of parents against the governing body.

One particularly difficult aspect for parent governors is in the area of complaints. Often parent governors are seen by other parents as the conduit through which they can complain. If a parent has a complaint about some aspect of what is happening in school, or about a member of staff, then the role of the parent governor is to explain the policy and procedures agreed by the governing body for dealing with complaints - the school may have a leaflet for this purpose. It is not the role to get involved in dealing with the complaint. The parent should be referred to the headteacher, or, in the case of a complaint against the headteacher, to the chair of governors. However if the parent is apprehensive or has difficulty contacting the school, you can help facilitate making an appointment with the headteacher and possibly even suggest or arrange for a friend to accompany him/her to the meeting. But do not get involved in the detail of the complaint itself or express an opinion on whether you feel the complaint is justified. You may be called upon at a later stage to make a judgement on the validity of a complaint as a member of the Complaints Committee. In which case it is essential that you are seen as independent and unbiased.

What else can parent governors do? The governing body as a whole has a responsibility for communicating with parents, but in some instances, where the governing body has specifically delegated them to do so, parent governors can get involved in producing a parents' newsletter. This is normally done in conjunction with the headteacher or other school staff as they also need to provide information to parents. Another possible aspect of parent governors communicating role might be the sharing of decisions made by the governing body with parents. Again this needs to be by agreement of the governing body and must exclude any items that are confidential.

Clearly the role of the parent governor is an important one and this is recognised in the composition of governing bodies where parent governors form a large part. Therefore it is essential that parent governors play a full part in the work of the governing body as they are the link with one of the key stakeholders in the school community i.e. parents.

If you have any questions relating to the role of the parent governor, please contact the Governor Support Unit on 01446 709106/108.

**Jeremy Morgan**  
Governor Support Unit  
email: [JerMorgan@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:JerMorgan@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)

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## Anti-Bullying Survey

The Pupil Support Service has been working with the Children and Young People's Partnership to produce a survey on anti-bullying for use in schools within the Vale. The Primary Behaviour Improvement Team (PBIT) has developed questionnaires for use in primary, secondary and special schools. ViewPoint, the software company commissioned by the CYPP, have written the program that will be used in schools.

Schools that have accessed training in anti-bullying strategies or policies from PBIT have been selected to pilot the questionnaire. Primary, secondary, special and Welsh medium schools are represented in the pilot group.

The questionnaire was launched in April. Representatives from nearly 20 schools attended the launch to meet with the people involved in developing the survey and to see a demonstration of how the survey will work in their schools. The survey is being installed in schools during May with technical support from ViewPoint.

It is hoped that primary schools will complete the questionnaire during the summer term. Secondary schools, that need more time, will complete the questionnaire during the autumn term. Each school will receive detailed feedback on their pupils' responses that can be used when reviewing practice and up-dating anti-bullying policies.

Individual schools and the Pupil Support Service will have access to the data. The Primary Behaviour Improvement Team will be available to help schools who wish to develop their anti-bullying work further as a result of the survey.

**Nicky Sturgess**  
Specialist Teacher  
Primary Behaviour Improvement Team  
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# School Effectiveness Framework (SEF) – Chairs' Seminar/Governor Training

On Monday 8 June 2009 in the Mount Sorrel Hotel, Barry, the Vale School Governors' Association (VSGA) hosted a Chairs' Seminar/Governor training session on the School Effectiveness Framework (SEF).

The session followed on from the successful VSGA Annual Conference on Saturday 7 March with the aim to give a further insight into SEF and the need for improved school effectiveness.

Dr Martin Price, Chair of VSGA introduced Dr Dylan Jones, Headteacher of Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg who is also involved with piloting SEF in the Vale. Dr Jones spoke candidly about SEF which sets out the Welsh Assembly Government's (WAG) vision for improving outcomes in learning and well-being for the children and young people of Wales.

SEF is based on the principles of tri-level reform – that is, WAG, local authorities and schools working collaboratively to bring about systems change. Under this framework, the whole education community should work together, and equally, from the outset on policy and programme initiatives that have an impact on education. Tri level reform is not merely about consulting and sharing information, it is about working together collaboratively, coherently and in partnership for the benefit of all children and young people.

The moral purpose that underpins the School Effectiveness Framework is: *to secure the best possible learner outcomes for every learner, in every learner setting.*

The diagram outlines interdependent areas of activity that need to be addressed if improvement for children and young people is to happen in and through schools.

It applies to schools: across classroom and whole school, local authority and Assembly Government levels. To be effective, it requires each of the levels to work together and align their efforts within the same framework. For all the levels there needs to be a clear 'line of sight' to the desired outcome of improved learning and learner wellbeing. The Framework identifies at each level, the actions to be undertaken to achieve the desired outcome.

Each element (leadership; working with others; networks of professional practice; intervention and support; improvement and accountability; and curriculum and teaching), when implemented in an integrated way, contributes to improvement. Current and planned programmes are placed within the Framework, so activities are aligned to serve a common goal and to ensure overall alignment to school effectiveness.

WAG will be evaluating the Pilot Phase to ensure that the future roll out of the Framework is effective and fit for purpose. The outcome of the testing and evaluation will inform the level of funding necessary to roll-out the Framework to all Schools in Wales over a three to five year period.

Further information on the School Effectiveness Framework can be accessed online via the WAG document 'School Effectiveness Framework' – Building effective learning communities together:

If you have any queries relating to the School Effectiveness Framework, please contact the Governor Support Unit on 01446 709106/108.

**Jeremy Morgan**  
Governor Support Unit





## News from Governors Wales

### New Director Appointed

Jane Morris has recently been appointed Director of Governors Wales. Jane is an honours graduate of the University of Wales. Before joining Governors Wales, Jane's career has been mainly in education, having taught in three secondary schools in South Wales. She has held posts ranging from classroom teacher to Head of department, as well as Support Services Co-ordinator for Governors Wales. An experienced governor, Jane has also been Chair and Vice-Chair of two governing bodies during the last few years.

### We've Moved

Governors Wales has moved! Our new address is as follows:

3 Oaktree Court, Mulberry Drive, Cardiff Gate Business Park, Cardiff, CF23 8RS. Tel: 029 2048 7858

### Recent Publications

A series of governor guides have recently been produced by Governors Wales on Effective Governing Bodies and sent to all Chairs of governing bodies in Wales. The guides are intended to build on the information already available in the Handbook for Governors of Schools in Wales, in particular Part 3, section 7.

The governor guides are in three parts:

1. The Governing Body's Leadership Role
2. The Governing Body's Strategic Role
3. The Governing Body's Role in School Improvement

These guides are proving to be very popular with governing bodies and we have received many requests for copies for each member of governing bodies and many compliments:

*"It is a very good document"*

*"...as they are a very useful quick guide"*

Recent Fact Files published include Modern Foreign Languages (produced jointly with CILT) and The Critical Friend. If you would like to receive copies, please telephone 029 2048 7858 or download from: [www.governorswales.org.uk/publications](http://www.governorswales.org.uk/publications)

### Future Events/Publications

#### Summer Conference/AGM - 11th July 2009

The theme of the conference will focus on the Independent Safeguarding Authority and Safeguarding Children in Education. The Minister for Children, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills will deliver the keynote address. Further information is available from the Governors Wales office on 029 2048 7858.

#### Future publications to look out for include:

- \* Fact File on Community Governors
- \* Fact File on Foundation Governors
- \* Model procedure for governing bodies of maintained schools on staff disciplinary matters commissioned by the Welsh Assembly Government.

#### Teacher Workload Agreement

Governors Wales was invited to give written and oral evidence to the Enterprise and Learning Committee on the Teacher Workload Agreement. Further evidence was also given on the role of governors resulting from the Enterprise and Learning Committee's inquiry into the implementation of the Teacher Workload Agreement.

#### Information available:

<http://www.assemblywales.org/bus-home/bus-committees/bus-committees-third1/bus-committees-third-els-home/bus-committees-third-els-agendas.htm?act=dis&id=128975&ds=6/2009>

### Governors Wales' Services

The Governors Wales' website [www.governorswales.org.uk](http://www.governorswales.org.uk) provides up to date, relevant information for school governors. Please spare a few moments (or longer!) to browse the site - you will find news items, FAQs, a wealth of publications - ranging from Governors Wales publications to circular guidance and statutory instruments from the Welsh Assembly Government, direct links to LEA governor training programmes and more!

We are keen to develop our website and would welcome any feedback, useful links, FAQs etc. Please email your comments to [contact@governorswales.org.uk](mailto:contact@governorswales.org.uk).

We are also keen to hear from governors regarding services they would like Governors Wales to offer and would welcome any feedback. Please email [contact@governorswales.org.uk](mailto:contact@governorswales.org.uk). We look forward to hearing from you.

**Mike Barker**  
Development Officer (South)  
Governors Wales

## 'Words in the Woods'

In the summer term of 2008 four primary schools in the Vale of Glamorgan - Eagleswell, St Andrew's Major, St Bride's Major and St Joseph's were involved in a joint project with the Forest Education Initiative (FEI) and Theatre lolo. The project was match funded by Arts Council Wales and the FEI.

The idea for the project came about as a result of a suggestion made by Amanda Gould, Associate Adviser for the Foundation Phase. It originally aimed to promote storytelling with nursery and reception children but developed into much more. The Foundation Phase (FP) places great importance on using the outdoors as another environment where children can learn and explore on a daily basis.

The project ran over four weeks with the children working with Sheena O'Leary, Forestry Commission Education Officer for Cardiff and the Vale, Sarah Argent, a freelance producer/director and two actors from Theatre lolo.

The children experienced two visits to the forest at Hensol giving them an opportunity to experience being outside in a natural woodland environment.



"Pencil" Woods!

Following the first visit the children's thoughts were collected back in school and then reflected on their second visit to the woods - with ribbons tied to the trees and giant pencils hanging from the branches, as the name of the forest had been misheard as 'Pencil' woods instead of Hensol woods!



Cooking in "Pencil" Woods!

On the second visit the children also met a person with wings (was she a fairy or not?) who lived in the woods and made soup with magic dust and Jack, a boy who was up in the tree.

These experiences fired the children's imagination and their stories were recorded back in school.

The project was shared at a celebration event in the woods attended by Jane Hutt, Assembly Minister for Children, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills, Bryan Jeffreys, Director of Learning and Development for the Vale and the Welsh Assembly Government (WAG) Foundation Phase team.

As a result of attending the evening in the woods at Hensol the WAG Foundation Phase team - Jon Hawkins, Morfudd Roberts and Sarah Clarke recognised the value of the project and the need to share it with Foundation Phase practitioners across Wales. A series of ten conferences were arranged and held in North and South Wales in the Spring of 2009 with Theatre lolo, the FEI and Learning Through Landscapes taking the lead.

Foundation Phase Outdoor Learning Experiences Conferences were offered to practitioners and local authority advisers from across Wales to:

- Illustrate in a practical way how the outdoor environment can be utilised to deliver the Foundation Phase.
- Provide examples of how a project such as "Words in the Woods" can support practitioners in delivering the seven Areas of Learning within the Foundation Phase Framework.

Sixteen teachers and four Advisory staff from the Vale attended the WAG conference on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009 along with colleagues from neighbouring authorities. The project has also been further disseminated in all authorities through cluster group meetings, as requested by WAG, to ensure that the practice has been shared with the widest audience.



*Magic Cook Book.*



*Exploring with Hanna (fairy?).*

Further to the success of these conferences an additional two conferences will be held in November 2009 for the Museums, Archives and Library services all of whom are keen to establish and develop links with the FP approach being used in schools.

The project has now been turned into a Theatre lolo production for nursery aged children called 'Finding Leaves for Soup' which is currently touring schools in the Vale and Cardiff.

Adults and children alike thoroughly enjoyed being a part of this project. The Foundation Phase cross-curricular learning opportunities were apparent to all involved and the children were provided with every opportunity to reinforce their learning through skills based activities back in their settings through the continuous provision.

This project identified the opportunities for learning that are available to children in any given learning environment and highlighted the success of the pedagogy and approach advocated in the Foundation Phase for children aged 3-7 years.

The enjoyment that was evident on every child's face was a joy to behold.

The teachers talked of children's 'wide-eyed wonderment', 'curiosity and excitement' and of them being taken 'through a new doorway and into a magical land'. One talked of the children being 'awe-struck' and her memories of the children's enjoyment and participation in such a natural, woodland setting being something she will never forget...*'enchanted, magical and so child centred'*.

One mother wrote:

*'My daughter was absolutely enchanted. It has ignited her imagination and she has talked about it ever since, I loved hearing about the 'magic soup'. How very clever to tell them that it would be ready the next day! She still has the magic dust which, when swimming or bathing, is kept in a container. Again, many thanks for keeping childhood alive'.*

**Amanda Gould**

**Associate Adviser – Foundation Phase**

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# Guidance on the Collaboration Arrangements (Maintained Schools and Further Education Bodies) (Wales) Regulations 2008

The Welsh Assembly Government (WAG) have released a Guidance Circular No:007/2009 relating to the above regulations.

Collaboration between learning providers is an intended outcome of Welsh Assembly Government policy, as expressed in *One Wales: A progressive agenda for the government of Wales*, *The Learning Country: Vision into Action and Learning Pathways 14-19* and *Transforming Education and Training Provision in Wales*.

The above collaborative arrangements will enable governing bodies of maintained schools and further education bodies to develop joint working arrangements and, if they wish, to delegate the exercise of their functions to one or more joint committees, insofar as such delegation would be permitted under the Government of Maintained Schools (Wales) Regulations 2005.

The regulations can be accessed online via the WAG website:

<http://wales.gov.uk/docs/dcells/publications/090227collaborationarrangementseng.pdf>

If you have any questions relating to Collaborative Arrangements, please contact the Governor Support Unit on 01446 709106/108.

**Jeremy Morgan**  
Governor Support Unit

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## Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA) - New Vetting and Barring Scheme

A new national Vetting and Barring Scheme is being introduced for people working or volunteering with children. Under the scheme, the Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA) will take decisions on barring unsuitable people from working or volunteering with vulnerable groups (including children).

There will be a legal requirement for employers to check if a person is ISA registered, which means the ISA has found no known reason why the applicant should not work with children or vulnerable adults. **The legislation specifies that all new and existing school governors will be covered by the scheme.**

School governors will fall under the term "Regulated Activity" given they are in a position of "defined responsibility". This means that if an individual is barred from working with vulnerable adults or children, they simply cannot be a school governor.

The scheme was due to be implemented in October 2009 but we understand that this date has been moved to at least Spring 2010 and will be introduced over a phased basis (currently 5 years). In the first instance all new governors will need to be ISA registered before they start in the position. The second phase will be registration of existing governors who have not had a CRB check, followed by the third and final phase which will require all remaining governors with CRB checks to be registered.

There is only limited detail available at present about the procedures that will need to be followed under the new scheme. We are expecting further guidance leading up to the implementation of the scheme from the ISA and from the Welsh Assembly Government (WAG) and we will update governing bodies accordingly.

Further information can be found online via the ISA website:

[www.isa-gov.org.uk/](http://www.isa-gov.org.uk/)

and/or WAG website:

<http://new.wales.gov.uk/topics//health/socialcare/vulnerableadults/vettingbarring/?lang=en>

If in the meantime, you have any queries relating to the ISA scheme please contact the Governor Support Unit on 01446 709106/108.

**Jeremy Morgan**  
Governor Support Unit

# 'All Skilled Up' - Cardiff City Football Club Literacy Pilot Project

## April - May 2009

'All Skilled Up' is an exciting literacy project devised by the Education Department at Cardiff City Football Club (CCFC) with the involvement of Academi. The philosophy behind the project is to make literacy more attractive, in particular, to boys, developing their literacy skills using football and sport as a stimulus. (Obviously they acknowledge that girls will also be interested and involved too!)

The pilot project involves Year 5 pupils from Oak Field Primary and Palmerston Primary in the Vale of Glamorgan. They will be taking part in six sessions, led by the CCFC Education team. The first session starts with a visit to CCFC grounds, working with author Peter Reed writing poetry and completing a 'literacy treasure hunt'. The following sessions include activities such as: 'Match Report', 'Be a

commentator', research skills- researching a favourite sports personality using resources at Barry Library, 'Press Conference' and 'Round Up'.

The pupils will take part in a survey before and after the project to assess their change in attitudes towards literacy. Many literacy skills will be utilised throughout enhancing the pupils' progress in oracy, reading and writing.

CCFC is hoping that the pilot project goes well (other schools are involved from the other counties in the local area), then further funding could be secured and hopefully they will be able to offer the project to a wider range of schools in the future.

**Susan Sibert**

Associate Adviser - Literacy

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## VSGA Management Committee Membership 2008-9

The VSGA Management Committee comprises 15 governors plus the two elected Parent Governor Representatives (PGR) from the Primary and Secondary sector.

If any governors would like to play a part on the VSGA Management Committee they are most welcome to attend meetings as an observer.

No.	Title	Initial	Surname	School
1	Mr	N	Craggs	Gwenfo C/W Primary School
2	Cllr Mr	C	Elmore	Colcot Primary & Holton Primary
3	Mrs	G	Evans	Ysgol Iolo Morganwg
4	Mr	G	Fogden	Ysgol Erw'r Delyn
5	Mrs	M	Gibbs	Cadoxton Nursery & Llantwit Major School
6	Mrs	J	Griffiths	Cogan Nursery & Cogan Primary
7	Mrs	S	Hodges	Ysgol Sant Baruc & Ysgol Gwaun y Nant
8	Mr	K	Ingram	Ashgrove School & Albert Primary
9	Cllr Mr	G	Kemp	Cowbridge Comprehensive & Rhws Primary
10	Mr	P	Lewis	Cowbridge Comprehensive School
11	Mrs	A	Males	Cogan Primary & St Cyres Comprehensive
12	Dr	M	Price	St Richard Gwyn R/C School
13	Mr	G	Price-Stephens	Llandough Primary School
14	Mr	D	Treharne	Ysgol Gwaun y Nant
15	Cllr Mr	M	Wilson	Albert Primary & Victoria Primary
PGR	Mrs	C	Baggett	Romilly Primary School
PGR				Vacant



*Cllr Geoff Cox, Jamie Gordon - Ysgol Erw'r Delyn and Miles Punter, Head of Visible Services.*

## And the winners were...

Sometimes we take part in competitions but we're not sure what happened to our efforts. With this in mind, we'd like to say a big thank you for the overwhelming local support for two popular schools recycling schemes, and share the results.

This year a record 50 Vale schools took part in the council's Christmas card recycling project. The prizes were scooped by St Joseph's RC Primary School for the second year running with their 276 cards per pupil, St Richard Gwyn Catholic High School again won the secondary prize, and collecting 366 cards per pupil meant that Ysgol Erw'r Delyn celebrated as the special school winners. These figures mean that St Joseph's alone collected over 56,000 cards!

Awesome amounts of cards were also collected by individual pupils. It was a double celebration for both Ysgol Erw'r Delyn and St Richard Gwyn when pupils Jamie Gordon and Lauren Williamson won the individual special and secondary school pupil prizes of £100 vouchers. Surely the star of the day was Georgia Lees of Holton Primary School, our primary pupil collecting champion, with her jawdropping 27,600 card total.

Similarly popular was the national scheme that we promote in Vale schools, The Yellow Woods Challenge. This long established project has again seen pupils collecting old copies of the yellow pages telephone directories. This year saw 37 schools take up the recycling initiative.

St Helen's RC Junior School have won first prize by collecting 9 yellow pages per pupil, with Llancarfan Primary School and St Joseph's RC Primary School in second and third place.

Councillor Geoff Cox, Cabinet Member for Visible

and Building Services, summed up our delight when he said "The results were amazing. However you were involved, just many thanks, we can always rely on Vale schools and their communities to make these schemes the success they are. Well done and thank you for all your support"

**Sam Harrison**

**Waste Awareness Officer**

**For further information please either**

**telephone: 01446 700111**

**or email: [visible@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:visible@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)**



*Lauren Williamson - St Richard Gwyn.*

# Governor Training Sessions – Summer Term & Autumn Term

All governors should have received this term their Summer Term Governor Training Programme. Please see below, details of the one remaining training course to be delivered this term.

Also listed below is advance warning of forthcoming training courses already scheduled to take place during the Autumn Term. The Autumn Term Training Programme will also be distributed, as usual, in September.

If you would like to reserve a place on any of the training, please contact the Governor Support Unit on **01446 709106/8** or email [governors@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:governors@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)

**Jeremy Morgan**  
Governor Support Unit

Date	Course	Time	Location
Monday 6 July 2009	Healthy Eating – The role of governors in improving pupil health	7.00-9.00pm	Mount Sorrel Hotel, Barry
Wednesday 30 Sept 2009	Child Protection	7.00-9.00pm	Mount Sorrel Hotel, Barry
Monday 12 Oct 2009	Induction training for new governors	6.30-8.30pm	Mount Sorrel Hotel, Barry
Monday 2 Nov 2009	Induction training for new governors	6.30-8.30pm	Mount Sorrel Hotel, Barry
Tuesday 10 Nov 2009	Senior Appointments Protocols	7.00-9.00pm	Mount Sorrel Hotel, Barry
Wednesday 11 Nov 2009	Training for clerks to governing bodies	6.30-8.30pm	Mount Sorrel Hotel, Barry
Tuesday 17 Nov 2009	Children and Young People's Partnership (CYPP)	7.00-9.00pm	Mount Sorrel Hotel, Barry
Tuesday 24 Nov 2009	Performance Management	6.30-8.00pm	Mount Sorrel Hotel, Barry
Thursday 26 Nov 2009	School Budgets/Finance	7.00-9.00pm	Mount Sorrel Hotel, Barry
Monday 30 Nov 2009	e-Safety/ICT Strategy	7.00-9.00pm	Mount Sorrel Hotel, Barry

## In association with the Vale of Glamorgan Council

Governor Support Unit  
Vale of Glamorgan Council,  
School Improvement Service  
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### Contact Details:

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#### Jeremy Morgan

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VSGA has an email address that you may contact us on.

It's [VSGA@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:VSGA@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)

alternatively you can contact VSGA by post at:

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