Vale School Governors' Association Cymdeithas Llywodraethwyr Ysgolion y Fro

and Governor Support Unit

Newsletter



Note from the Chair

are rising. The economy is still in a education as the Assembly's formulas mess. What does this mean for suggest it should. The council tax can schools in the Vale?

At this time of the year, the Vale's School Budget Forum considers the figures presented by the Council's Officers, based on the Welsh Assembly Government's financial Our Councillors have a difficult settlement to the Council. Recommendations are made to the Vale's financial people and then to Cabinet and ultimately the full Council.

six governor representatives arguing dispiriting process. There is never care. enough money to go round. The Vale remains at the bottom of the heap when money is given out. Virtually every other local authority in Wales spends more per pupil each year in educating its children than the Vale does. This has been the case for more than a decade.

The reasons are complex and much discussed, and not easily solved. The

Times are hard. Unemployment rates Vale does not spend as much on rise, if that is acceptable politically, but some of the money would still have to come from cutting other services which are also under severe

balance to achieve. I do not envy them. You can help their job by explaining to your local Councillor what the effect of operating with severe financial constraints is having Membership of the Budget Forum on your school. Tell them what you has been revised and you now have are not doing because you do not have the money. Tell them about your case. However, I still find this a the effect on the children in your

> The Vale's Vision 2015 for Education has been developed. The aspirations are excellent and we all sign up to them. Can we deliver them with the cash we will be given?

> > **Martin Price**

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

Issue 18 **Autumn 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

Result of VSGA Consultation

At the beginning of this term, the Governor Support Unit (GSU) wrote to all governing bodies to consult on a proposed amendment to the VSGA Constitution. Governing bodies approved the change by way of a majority.

The agreed change means that the term of office for a member of the Committee will now be 2 years. This will allow members of the Committee the time to play a far more effective role on the Committee.

The VSGA Management Committee and the GSU would like to thank all those governing bodies who responded to the consultation.

> **Jeremy Morgan Governor Support Unit**

Community Focused Schools (CFS) in the Vale of Glamorgan

Background

The Learning Country sets out the Welsh Assembly Government's commitment to schools being at the heart of their communities.

'We want to see a much closer relationship between schools and the communities they serve. We want schools to act as a community resource – not just in school hours but out of hours and in vacations as well. We see them being integral to community capacity building - providing a base for delivering, not just education and training, but also a range of other services like family support, health and enterprise promotion'.

The Learning Country 2001

These aspirations are closely aligned with the priorities of the Vale of Glamorgan Council as set out in the community strategy corporate plan and relevant plans for children and young people, all of which seek to improve the quality of life and enhance the life chances of children, young people and adults across the county.

The National Assembly for Wales provides advice and guidance for the development for community focused schools in Circular No 34/2003 (2003). This policy clearly outlines how partners and schools can work together to develop this approach and the benefits it can provide to all parties. The policy also highlights the powers Governing Bodies have under the provision made within the Education Act 2002 which gives the power to Governing to develop services which meet the needs of their pupils, parents and the community.

Developing a Community Focus Schools (CFS) approach can address a number of needs within schools and communities, the CFS team can help schools to do this in a number of ways including making links with community organisations, sharing good practice and access to funding.

Activities and Events in the Vale

The Community Focused Schools team in the Vale of Glamorgan have been working with schools and communities in the Vale of Glamorgan to create and promote opportunities for children, young people and the wider community and have established successful working partnerships with a wide variety of organisations to support the work in line with the Community Focused School Strategy.

Pyramid Clubs

Vale AM Jane Hutt joined children and volunteers from Llantwit Major Schools to celebrate the success of the Pyramid Club run in the cluster primary schools. Run by volunteers and coordinated by the Community Focused Schools Manager this pilot project worked with 17 volunteers and made a difference to 39 children over the past year. Working with schools the children across year 3 and 4 were screened with those showing higher social needs attending the after school clubs.

The ethos of the Pyramid club is to improve confidence and encourage friendships amongst the group by encouraging them to engage in fun activities which boost self esteem.

The success of this pilot has highlighted the impact of positive experiences on the wellbeing of children and supports the Healthy Schools agenda. The pilot has been supported by a multi agency steering group who are now seeking funding to offer this to more schools in the Vale.

MEND

M.E.N.D (Mind, Exercise, Nutrition, Do it!) is a multi-disciplined community-based lifestyle programme designed to work with children aged between 7 and 13 years who are over weight or obese. The programme, works with the parent and child to explore how they currently live in terms of health and fitness and what areas they would like to change, this is not a weight loss group. The programme is funded by the Welsh Assembly Government and is currently running out of Bryn Hafren Comprehensive School. This programme attracts families from across the Vale of Glamorgan and to date has worked with 30 families.

Intergenerational Workshops

As part of Adult Learner's Week in the Vale, 11th to 15th May 2009, school children and parents learned together about healthy lunchboxes. The Cymru Cooks group (which involves Healthy Schools, Community Focused Schools, Clybiau Plant Cymru and Community Dietician) secured funding from NIACE to deliver Intergenerational Workshops. These were delivered in five schools in the Vale.

Millennium Volunteers at Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg

A group of 6th form students at Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg have collectively volunteered over 1000 hours of their time as part of the Millennium Volunteers scheme to numerous projects supporting younger members of the school community.

The young people volunteered for projects such as reading schemes, peer mentoring, youth work training, 'swogio Llangrannog', stewarding Eisteddfodau, assisting at the Welsh Youth Club at Penarth Leisure Centre, table tennis clubs, football clubs and many more.

Community Events

Working in partnership with others is at the heart of the CFS work in the Vale. The team worked with community groups and services to promote opportunities to children, young people and communities to host 'What's in it for you?' this event was held in Barry in March 2009 and the community saw for the first time an event with information and activities for all age groups advertised and aimed at children, young people and adults throughout the Vale.

If you would like more information contact:

Lynne Osborne, Community Focused Schools Manager

Tel: 01446 709560

Email: losborne@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

The ICT Mark in the Vale of Glamorgan Schools

All schools within the vale of Glamorgan are working towards being accredited with the ICT Mark. In order to gain the ICT Mark schools work on the Self Review Framework (SRF) which has been developed by BECTa (British Educational and Communications Technology Agency).

The SRF is an on-line tool which helps schools identify their level of maturity in the use of ICT. It has a set of descriptors which enable schools to see where they can make the use of ICT more effective.

By using the SRF schools gain a wider perspective on issues and involve staff, pupils as well as other stakeholders such as parents and governors in making decisions about the schools use of ICT. The whole process is rigorous and can take schools up to two years.

The framework is split into eight elements.

- 1. Leadership and Management
- 2. Curriculum
- 3. Learning and teaching
- 4. Assessment
- 5. Professional Development
- 6. Extending opportunities for learning
- 7. Resources
- 8. Impact on Pupil outcomes

Each element is divided into strands, which break down further into different aspects. Once schools have reached the national standard in ICT effectiveness, which is indicated by a logo in each aspect, they can apply to be assessed for the ICT Mark accreditation.

The assessment is carried out by an external assessor and involves a half a day visit to the schools which includes looking at evidence, a tour of the schools and interviews with all stakeholders including senior managers, staff, pupils, parents and governors.

To date seven schools in the Vale of Glamorgan have been accredited with the ICT Mark – Bryn Hafren, Rhws, Dinas Powys Infant, Barry Island Primary, Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg, Cogan Primary, and Stanwell Comprehensive.

Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg were the first Welsh Medium Secondary School in Wales to achieve the award and they have been short listed for an ICT in Excellence Award for 2009.

Jendy Hillier

Strategy Team Leader for Curriculum Development
ICT Mark Assessor
School Improvement Service
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School Nursing Service - The HPV Vaccination Campaign



During the 2008-09 school year, HPV vaccination which aims to reduce cervical cancer was introduced for all girls in year 8 of Secondary school. The school nursing service was identified as the key health professionals tasked with delivering this program in schools. The programme requires 3 visits to school during the school year to complete the course of vaccinations.

The school nursing service employed a small team of nurses to deliver the program along with their existing School Nurses.

During last school year the vaccination was successfully delivered in all schools across the Vale to approximately 800 young girls. Following the success of the first year, it was decided by Welsh Assembly Government that the program would be accelerated to deliver not only to year 8, but also to girls in years 10, 11, 12 and 13.

As you can imagine it is no mean task with 3 visits required to complete the course for each girl and with such large numbers involved it has meant that we have had to plan to visit schools on many occasions. As a service we are mindful of the impact this causes to schools and would really like to express our thanks to all the Secondary Schools for the help and support they have given us undertaking this important task.

This program has placed additional workload on our school nurses and we appreciate that Primary schools may also feel the impact of this. Again we would like to thank you for your understanding at this busy time. From next year we will return to the standard program of delivering the HPV vaccine in year 8 only.

The school nursing service is a flexible service that can respond to the needs of the school aged child. Each School Nurse can be contacted via their allocated schools, who can inform you of their base and contact details should you need to speak to them.

School Nurse co-ordinators:

Caroline Jones and Kay Holmes can be contacted on 02920 371221.

Senior Nurse: Nuala Mahon - 02920 536800

Governor Training Sessions - Spring/Summer Term 2010

All governors will be receiving their Spring Term Governor Training Programme early in January. Please see below details of the courses scheduled.

Also included is advance warning of the VSGA/GSU Annual Governor Conference. Further information relating to the Conference will be distributed early in the Spring Term.

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

Jeremy Morgan Governor Support Unit

Date	Course	Time	Location
Mon 3 Feb	Redundancy Procedures	7.00-9.00pm	Mount Sorrel Hotel, Barry
Thurs 11 Feb	Self Evaluation, Monitoring & Review	7.00-9.00pm	Mount Sorrel Hotel, Barry
Mon 22 Feb	Induction for new governors	6.30-8.30pm	Mount Sorrel Hotel, Barry
Sat 6 Mar	VSGA Annual Conference	9.00-1.00pm	Vale of Glamorgan Hotel
Wed 10 Mar	School Performance Data	7.00-9.00pm	Mount Sorrel Hotel, Barry
Tues 23 Mar	School Budgets/Finance	7.00-9.00pm	Mount Sorrel Hotel, Barry
Mon 14 April	Performance Management	6.30-8.00pm	Mount Sorrel Hotel, Barry
Wed 5 May	Health & Safety	7.00-9.00pm	Mount Sorrel Hotel, Barry

Show Racism the Red Card

Once again the Council is working in conjunction with the anti-racist charity Show Racism the Red Card to raise awareness amongst young people of racism in society. As the sport of football has a tremendous influence on young people, Show Racism the Red Card aims to use the sport as a starting point to tackle the serious issue of racism.

We are offering schools the opportunity to access a workshop which will consist of 1 hour of football coaching and a 1 hour anti-racist workshop for up to 30 pupils max.

The workshops, which are accompanied by an education pack, have been specifically designed for primary age pupils years 5 and 6 and the younger age groups in secondary schools.

The aims of the workshops are:

To familiarise young people with the causes, consequences and forms of racism and equip them with a range of skills that will enable them to challenge racism;

To enable young people to develop good relationships and respect the differences between people, regardless of a person's race, ethnicity, nationality or religion;

To help young people prepare to play an active role as citizens in a growing multi-racial society, and to prepare them for life experiences;

To provide teachers with an easy-to-use teaching resource to enable them to educate for the above.

The football coaching session will include emphasis on teamwork, healthy lifestyles and sportsmanship. Each young person attending the workshop will receive anti-racist resources and the charity also have hand out prizes which are often distributed including wrist bands, magazines, posters, match tickets, signed posters by footballers and mini-footballs.

If you would like to contact Show Racism the Red Card to arrange a workshop, please either call them on 02920 340 422 or email damon@theredcardwales.org

The annual Show Racism the Red Card schools competition is also underway once again and many more schools in the Vale of Glamorgan will have an opportunity to get involved as the campaign starts delivering workshops over the coming months. Previous winners have met stars such as Ryan Giggs, Rio Ferdinand and Thierry Henry.

Details of the competition can be found at www.theredcard.org

Tim Greaves

Vale Council Equalities Department Tel: 01446 709446 Email: TSGreaves@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk







SRRC schools competition winner.

Vale teachers go back to the (outdoor) classroom!!!

While most teachers in the Vale were busy preparing for a new influx of pupils on the first day of term, teachers from St Helens Junior School, St Josephs Primary School and St Richard Gwyn were enhancing their skills in Adventurous Activities at Cowbridge Youth Centre.

As part of the Vale's Physical Education & School Sports initiative (P.E.S.S.), teachers and learning support staff from the three schools used a school closure day to learn about Orienteering, Team Building, Traversing, Campcraft, Problem-solving and Journeying activities suitable for use with their pupils. After a busy day of making shelters, The schools form part of a P.E.S.S. Development putting up tents, and a stint on the climbing wall, staff were raring to try out some of the activities aim to raise standards in curriculum Physical back at school with their pupils.

"I loved this course! I learnt loads and had so much fun."

"I can't wait to go back to school and use the resources with my class."

(Teacher Responses)

PE & School Sport AG a Chwaraeon Ysgol

Raising standards - Extending opportunities Codi safonau - Ehangu cyfleoedd

To help the teachers with their delivery of the activities, each school was given a scheme of work and a resource pack of training cards to take back to school to enhance teaching and learning.

Centre, one of six such centres in the Vale which Education. For further information on P.E.S.S. contact:

Lesley Dancey

P. E. & School Sport Co-ordinator, Vale of **Glamorgan Council**

Cydlynydd A. G. a Chwaraeon Ysgol, Cyngor Bro Morgannwg







Designed to Smile South Wales



The Welsh Assembly Government's Designed to Smile Campaign aims to improve the dental health of young children. In some areas of Wales dental disease levels in children are amongst the

Wales by Cardiff and Vale University LHB Community Dental Service.

Community Dental teams are working with parents, teachers and pupils to implement supervised toothbrushing in nursery, reception and year 1 The launch of the Designed to Smile programme in classes and special care schools. Children participate in a dry toothbrushing technique, which takes place 2009 when the First Minister, Rhodri Morgan visited in the classroom once a day, usually after lunchtime. the Dental Hospital at the University Hospital of The aim is to ensure children get fluoride onto their teeth on a regular basis. They are provided with a toothbrush and fluoride toothpaste and are shown the best way to brush their own teeth. They are also given a take home pack which includes a toothbrush, toothpaste, a parent information leaflet and a sticker. The programme also includes prevention techniques such as fissure sealants and fluoride



highest in Europe. The campaign is run in South varnishing. The aims are not only to educate children about dental health for today, but help reduce more serious dental problems in later life.

> Fourteen schools in Barry are currently participating in the toothbrushing programme.

> South Wales took place on the 30th January Wales in Cardiff.

Dinah Channing

Dental Health Manager Designed to Smile Tel: 029 20211495 email:

dinah.channing@cardiffandvale.wales.nhs.uk

Living with Dyspraxia

My name is Simon and I am 14 and have dyspraxia and dyslexia. In front of my laptop is an old school report and it is quite a depressing read, a real catalogue of failures: can't pedal a trike; can't throw, catch or kick a ball; can't cut with scissors, do jigsaws, follow instructions, simple fastenings, dress myself tends to fall over feet; no predominant hand (left and right handed); "reacts dramatically to any sudden noises flashing lights etc.... (it could almost say "send him back and ask for a refund"). Well being dyspraxic is no picnic because football is HUGE in our culture and compulsory in schools.

Dyspraxia stems from a neurological condition in which the brain does not process information correctly. It results in information not being properly or fully transmitted. It affects the planning of what to do and is linked to problems of perception, language and thought. Males are four times more likely to be affected and it seems to run in families. There can be overlap with dyslexia, Aspergers syndrome and ADHD. People with dyspraxia can be over or under sensitive to flashing lights, loud music (discos), certain textures, temperature and tastes. It is a life-long condition. Most dyspraxics are of average or above average intelligence are often articulate, often have innovative ideas but have difficulty in getting them down on paper.

Don't Despair

- 1. Dyspraxia does not have to damage your whole life e.g. my special needs teacher gave me one-to-one support and encouraged me to use my laptop after which I made great progress.
- 2. Counselling is soon to be provided in all secondary schools by Barnados
- 3. The youth section of the Vale Dyspraxia Support Group is happy to provide training for governors and has successfully provided training in a number of settings. So please ask for this.
- 4. The Vale Dyspraxia Support Group is a resource for you to use, so please contact us on our helpline 01446 738945, or via our website www.vdsg.org.uk.

Simon Woodward Vale Dyspraxia Support Group

NGfL Cymru

NGfL Cymru continues to develop interactive resources that support the curriculum for ages 3-19, including vocational and currently provides in excess of 3000 resources.

The materials that are currently available on NGfL Cymru have been developed through a number of different sources. The sources include individual teachers, networks of teachers, collaboration between institutions and new resources that have been commissioned to fill an identified gap.

They have been specifically developed to support the needs of the Curriculum in Wales, Y Cwricwlwm Cymreig and the bilingual provision of resources.

During the last year emphasis has been placed on resources including:

- A suite of Foundation Phase resources
- KS1, Mathematics, Problem Solving
- Welsh Second Language
- KS3, Maths Investigation
- GCSE Geography resources by Hodder Education
- A suite of resources for KS3 History
- A set of interactive appraising activities for KS2 and KS3 Music
- A suite of interactive speaking and listening resources based on 21st century issues and incorporating thinking skills activities
- AS Sociology, E-book

Experience has shown that there is a significant amount of resource development underway in schools and within NGfL Cymru we have been proactive over the years in trying to facilitate the sharing of these resources.

One of the exciting ways of developing resources is working directly with individual teachers and through our Innovative Resources Fund (IRF) we are able to offer some funding to support the development process. Often, IRF projects are based on materials that may already exist but may require additional work to make them suitable for sharing on the World Wide Web.

Another exciting area of NGfL Cymru is the registration. Although, this is on a voluntary basis, registering will provide teachers with access to some additional services that will allow them to personalise their access to NGfL Cymru. This feature allows teachers to store their 'NGfL Cymru' favourites so that they can have direct access to those resources wherever they log on to the site, provides access to online discussion forums and update emails letting them know what's happening in their areas of interest. There is also a facility to publish RSS News feeds that can be incorporated into other systems, including LEA and School Websites.

We hope you see NGfL Cymru a useful resource and will encourage your schools to use it effectively. It could also be useful in supporting your schools as they work through the ICT Self Review Framework.

If you have any queries or comments please do not hesitate to contact NGfL Cymru on 029 2026 5177 or info@ngfl-cymru.org.uk

NGfL Cymru can be found at http://www.ngfl-cymru.org.uk

MISTILE

Vale Council HR Update for Governors

There have been a number of employment related issues affecting schools recently. We will continue to provide relevant information via Head teachers but the following is a brief summary.

Extension of Right to request Flexible Working provisions

In April 2009, the right to request flexible working was extended to include:

- Parents of children 16 and under and disabled children under 18 who are in receipt of Disability Living Allowance.
- Carers with responsibility for relatives or for someone who lives at the same address.

The right applies to these eligible employees to request flexible working. It is not a right to work flexibility. However, an employer must give the request serious consideration and can refuse only on clear specified business grounds. The formal procedure includes a written application from the employee and the need for meetings and written response from the employer. Head teachers have been given guidelines on this provision and an employee guide is also available for staff.

Changes to the School Teachers Pay & Conditions Document

Rarely Cover

Since the National Agreement on Raising Standard and Tackling Workload in Janaury 2003, there has been increasing movement towards schools allowing more time for teachers and heads to focus on teaching and learning. The 2009 Document introduced the requirement for Head teachers to ensure that teachers are required to cover the absence of colleagues only rarely and in circumstances that are unforeseen. To facilitate this, Head teachers have been asked to:

- Consult on the annual calendar and school timetable with staff and union representatives
- Consult on and produce a policy that supports the requirement for teachers to rarely cover again with staff and union representatives. Schools were also advised to have a policy in place to accommodate Special Leave requests
- Have systems in place to alleviate the need for teachers to cover absent colleagues (e.g. deployment of support staff, supply cover etc)
- Monitor the amount of time spent by teachers required to cover absent colleagues in unforeseen circumstances and to ensure that this is shared equally between staff

By this time, it is expected that all schools have complied with the requirement and it is likely that the policy has been ratified by the Governing Body.

Vetting and Barring (Independent Safeguarding Authority)

The Vetting and Barring scheme is being introduced from 12 October 2009. The system will enhance safeguarding for vulnerable groups and introduce 2 registers – one for protection of children and one for adults. The intention is to bring together all relevant information on individuals working with these groups and to keep this updated at all times.

Under the new scheme, from November 2010 employers will be committing a criminal offence if they employ an individual who is not ISA registered. The scope of those covered by the scheme will be extended and activities will be classed as either

'regulated' – an activity which involves contact with children or vulnerable adults either paid or voluntary on a frequent, intense and/or overnight basis or certain defined positions.

or

'controlled' – an activity which supports work in a setting with vulnerable groups. Examples may include an individual who works for an organisation with frequent access to sensitive records.

The scheme is being phased in with current key dates:

October 2009 -

Employers must not employ any individual who is on the barred list which will be picked up as part of the enhanced CRB

There will be a greater number of job roles needing enhanced CRB check (this will include any individual working (either paid of unpaid) in a regulated activity.

Employers will have a duty to refer individuals who may pose a risk to vulnerable groups, to the ISA.

Employers who knowingly take on barred individuals will be subject to criminal penalties.

July 2010

Employers will be able to subscribe to individual's ISA registration status from this date. All new entrants to roles covered by the process and those switching jobs to a new provider within these sectors will be able to register with the ISA (not legally required at this stage). Once a person applies for ISA registration, they will be continually monitored. If they are transferred onto a barred list, the employer will be informed.

November 2010

The legal requirements for new staffing and governor appointments individuals to register with the ISA and employers to check their status comes into force. An individual cannot work, even supervised, until the employer receives confirmation of the ISA registration.

January 2011 - July 2015

Existing workforce and governors will be phased into the scheme.

WAG are currently reviewing the regulations as they will apply to governors in Wales and when we receive further guidance we will provide updated information.

Please note this is a very brief overview – Ffurther information is available at www.isa-gov.org.uk.

Sue Alderman

Principal Personnel Officer

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Email: STAlderman@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

Health for Kids awards 2009 - St Helen's RC Junior School

The national Health for Kids awards, presented this year in partnership with the British Heart Foundation, is an excellence programme that rewards good practise for projects and initiatives throughout the UK that make a real difference to child health.

There is much coverage in the media about the health of our children, the lack of health in our children, the future health of our children etc. There is little or no coverage of the innovative and effective work that many thousands of people in our communities are doing to help our children live happier, healthier lives.

Whilst great emphasis has been put upon individual issues such as child obesity the health of our children is in fact a far wider issue. The Health for Kids awards encompasses all of these issues and encourages entries from initiatives helping children learn the value all aspects of their health.

There were five categories in the 2009 programme:

- Healthy Eating
- Physical Activity
- Personal and Social Health
- Emotional Health and Wellbeing
- Safety and Citizenship

Entries were invited from official, voluntary and community organisations who run initiatives, based on the above categories, that seek to improve the health of children and young people.

St Helen's RC Junior School in Barry beat hundreds of excellent entries to be commended in the "Safety & Citizenship" category. The school started their Heart Start Emergency First Aid Course scheme in spring 2008. The course consists of a DVD, worksheets, lesson plans and booklets for the pupils' revision. Each lesson is based on a scenario on the DVD which is then discussed and practical activities are undertaken. The pupils watched the DVD and then practiced assessing a situation, emergency phone calls, recovery position, dealing with bleeding and a suspected heart attack. At the next stage we were able to revise these actions before moving onto mouth to mouth resuscitation.

The availability of manikins to use meant that the pupils worked in groups, each taking turns to assess the situation, send for help, and start CPR, while their group advised and assessed their performance. The children worked enthusiastically and were very eager to discuss related incidents. They gained in confidence as the lessons progressed and the majority returned homework on time! Quieter children often shone in these lessons and group work helped the less able as there was no competition involved.

At the end of the course, certificates were awarded for each level. These awards are usually done by the Headteacher, but on the first occasion, the paramedic trainer visited the school with a press photographer - great excitement! Both the children and the teachers would endorse this scheme and we hope it might save a life one day.

Since the start of the scheme, four teachers have been trained to deliver Heart Start, so ensuring its future in the school, and 115 pupils have passed.

For more information about the Health for Kids awards and entering next year's programme visit www.hfkawards.co.uk

Rachel Jones

formerly Healthy Schools Co-ordinator - St Helen's RC Junior School

VSGA Management Committee Membership 2009-10

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

There are currently two vacancies on the Management Committee. If any governor would like to be co-opted to one of these two positions, please contact Jeremy Morgan in the GSU.

A governor will be elected to the Parent Governor Representative (PGR) (Primary) vacancy on the Committee in the Spring Term when an election is held.

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	С	Elmore	Colcot Primary & Holton Primary
3	Mrs	G	Evans	Ysgol Iolo Morganwg
4	Mr	G	Fogden	Ysgol Erw'r Delyn
5	Mrs	М	Gibbs	Cadoxton Nursery & Llantwit Major School
6	Mrs	S	Hodges	Ysgol Sant Baruc & Ysgol Gwaun y Nant
7	Mr	K	Ingram	Ashgrove School & Albert Primary
8	Cllr Mr	G	Kemp	Cowbridge Comprehensive & Rhws Primary
9	Mrs	А	Males	Cogan Primary & St Cyres Comprehensive
10	Dr	М	Price	St Richard Gwyn R/C School
11	Mr	G	Price-Stephens	Llandough Primary School
12	Mr	D	Treharne	Ysgol Gwaun y Nant
13	Cllr Mr	M	Wilson	Albert Primary & Victoria Primary
14				Vacant
15				Vacant
PGR				Vacant
PGR	Mr	Р	Lewis	Cowbridge Comprehensive School

In association with the Vale of Glamorgan Council

Governor Support Unit
Vale of Glamorgan Council,
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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
alternatively you can contact VSGA by post at:

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Learning & Development Dept.
Vale of Glamorgan Council
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