



# Cypress School Governors

The Federated Governing Body of Cypress Infant and Junior School  
South Norwood, London, SE25 5AU

Chair of Governors: Kathy Bee

5<sup>th</sup> June 2008

Dear Parents and Carers,

## Primary School Specialism

We are very excited that Cypress Junior School has been chosen to become one of England's first specialist primary schools.

You may be aware that many secondary schools have become specialist schools, but up to now primary schools have not benefited from this scheme.

Under this pilot project, Cypress Junior School is receiving additional funding to spend on bringing in new expert staff, equipment and upgrading our buildings. The aim is to improve results in English, maths and science, not just the specialist subject. If our results show a significant improvement, our model could be copied nationwide.

We have to choose a subject for our specialism by the end of the summer term and will be making the formal decision at the Governing Body Meeting on 2nd July. The choices of specialism are: science, modern foreign languages arts, music or PE/sport.

Our Ofsted report makes it very clear that the school needs to improve in maths and science and needs to do much better for boys. We, the Governing Body, believe that science is the only one of the specialist subject choices that will really support us in doing this. I should emphasise, however, that should science be selected as the specialism, this does not mean that other subjects, such as music and sport, will receive less attention, and we will continue to provide a wide range of opportunities for children to achieve their potential in all areas. Before we make our formal choice, governors want to give parents the opportunity to see what we have in mind and give us their feedback.

Mr Slade, our new headteacher from September 2008, has written a proposal for Cypress Juniors to become a science specialist school and this is attached to this letter. We will be holding an open evening for parents and carers to hear more about the proposal on **17<sup>th</sup> June at 7.00pm in the school hall**. This will be a great opportunity to meet Mr Slade before he joins us formally in September as well as to hear how the school can become a Centre of Excellence for Science.

I look forward to seeing you at the meeting. If you are unable to attend and would like to comment on the attached proposal, please give us your feedback on the attached form or log into our website and give us your feedback on there (this facility will be available from Monday 9th). You should return your feedback by 17<sup>th</sup> June.

Yours sincerely

Kathy Bee  
Chair of the Federated Governing Body of Cypress Infants and Junior School



INVESTORS IN PEOPLE

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