

## **Mayor's Diary**

**19 February 2015**

Three Mayoral engagements this week and the first of these was a return trip to Boroughbridge Primary School. Last time I visited, the school was in a transient state with the nursery sections “camped out” in somewhat dilapidated spare buildings. Now they have moved back into fantastic refurbished rooms in the main building, and it was our pleasure to attend the official opening. Both our schools promote themselves as community schools, and there is no doubt that the primary school does engage with the community. Evidenced by the help and support received from local clubs, service organisations, businesses, parents and governors – all contributing one way or another. Help was not just financial, but it included sleeves rolled up and wielding a paint brush, creating facilities to be proud of. And that’s not just my opinion, the latest School Education Advisor rated the school as “securely good” with Early Years improving towards “outstanding”. The ribbon cutting for the new Nursery and Reception was performed by Mrs Helen Scott who with 4 children at the school is well placed to represent all the parents. Will Smith from Stray FM was there and those of you who listen regularly will I am sure have heard the children “on air”. We also met some unexpected guests – two snakes that had come to school to broaden the children’s education. Having previously given such reptiles a wide berth, the Mayoress and I found it was a real pleasure to actually handle them and come to understand why they can be such popular pets. No such occasion is complete without tea, coffee, cupcakes, and a celebratory cake to be cut; helping Chair of Governors, Mary Kelly, “do the honours” was a perfect end to our visit.