

Welcome to the first Governor newsletter of the new school year! Firstly, we would like to extend a very warm welcome to our new Reception children and their families and a huge "welcome back" to our year one and year two children. We hope you had a wonderful summer break although it's hard to believe we are already fast approaching the end of Term 1.

My name is Michelle McDermitt and I feel very privileged to have been elected as the new Chair of Governors for this academic year. I joined the Governing Body in 2018 when my children attended the school, and I am very proud to be part of the school's continued and ongoing success. I would like to thank our outgoing Chair, Marcus Farr for his outstanding contribution over the last ten years and I am very grateful that he has agreed to remain on the board so we can continue to benefit from his skills and experience, and also to ensure a smooth transition.

Governors are volunteers who are appointed to ensure that the school's objectives are met. Alongside Mrs Pass and the Senior Leadership Team (SLT), we are responsible for developing a vision and strategy for the school. We oversee the financial performance of the school to make sure money is well spent and most importantly, we support and encourage the whole school community to ensure that every child has access to an enriched education and all the opportunities that they deserve.

We are always looking for volunteers from a wide range of backgrounds to join the governing body and help support our children on their educational journey. We are an inclusive, supportive and friendly bunch, so please contact the school if you, or someone you know, might be interested in joining us.

WHO ARE WE?

Parent Governors Gemma Clatworthy Nicola Goldberg

Co-Opted Governors

Michelle McDermitt – Chair Kathryn Lancaster – Vice Chair Christine Hodkinson

> Local Authority Marcus Farr

Staff Alison Pass – Headteacher Emily Smith

THINGS WE HAVE RECENTLY BEEN DISCUSSING

We were very excited to be back in school after the summer break and at our first meeting of the year we discussed the strategic priorities for the school and how these will be achieved. In summary, alongside lots of other brilliant things planned for this year, these are the key focus areas that the SLT and governors believe will have the biggest impact on our children:

- To successfully implement our exciting new phonics scheme across the school to maximise high quality learning.
- To secure solid foundations and fluency for all children in relation to maths and number work.
- To further develop high quality continuous provision to encourage our children to be active, creative learners who are curious to explore and play.
- To ensure that regular outdoor learning has a beneficial impact on the learning and development of our children providing endless opportunities to develop new skills and enjoy exciting adventures.

We will, of course, keep you updated throughout the year on our progress!