

Governors' Newsletter

Autumn 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

We are often asked as Governors what we do, so we thought we would take the time in this newsletter to introduce the role of the Governing Board, and the role of some of our individual Governors.

As a Governing Board we work alongside Mrs Ruane and the Senior Leadership Team to understand the challenges faced in managing the school. Our role is strategic, meaning that we decide the overall aims of the school, looking at how it should best develop and improve. This is done in a variety of ways, helping to set the Vision, Values and Ethos of the school, reviewing and agreeing policies, setting targets and priorities, and monitoring, and reviewing aims and objectives. We work as a team with Mrs Ruane to understand the challenges faced in managing the school. We question, challenge and find solutions. We are **not** involved in the day to day running of the school. We delegate this to Mrs Ruane and her staff. If you have any questions or concerns about anything school related, they should be directed to the school, as this is not a parent governors' responsibility.

As Chair of Governors my role is to lead the Governing Board by ensuring that we work as a team to challenge, support and contribute to the strategic leadership and development of the school. The role however, is so much more than just this. A Chair wears many different "hats." A leader, an ambassador, a confidante, a manager, a critical friend, a mentor and a cheerleader, to name a few! Early years education is very important to me, and I'm happy to dedicate the time needed to help ensure our children receive the best possible start to their school lives. I enjoy the role immensely. I am also privileged to work alongside a committed and professional group of colleagues.

If, after reading our newsletter you are interested in joining our Governing Board, and have the time needed to commit to the role, we currently have a vacancy for a Parent/Carer Governor, and we'd love to hear from you. Please contact Mrs Ruane, who will be able to tell you how to apply for the position. For Safeguarding purposes all Governors are required to have an enhanced DBS check and this would be arranged by the school.

On behalf of Governors, I'd like to wish our Staff and all our Westfield families a Happy Christmas and a Healthy and Peaceful New Year.

Gail Steele
Chair of Governors



Statement from Rebecca Henson

I am a Local Authority Governor. In my day job I am employed by Leicestershire County Council. As a Governor I take part in all meetings of the Governing body. I also Chair the Safeguarding,

Premises and Health & Safety sub-committee. I am the Governor lead for maths and hold reviews of how the subject is delivered in line with the curriculum, as well as carrying out regular visits to see maths teaching in action.

I was welcomed as a member of the governing board two years ago. I have received lots of training and the full support of all members. The board members all bring different skills and experiences, and we all have a common goal of making decisions in the best interests of the school, it's pupils and staff. The role only demands a few hours of my time every month but is immensely rewarding.



Statement from Katy Duke

I have been a Co-opted Governor for about a year now and it has been one of the best decisions I have ever made. I couldn't wish for a better

team of people to work with. Every single person on our Governing board is so devoted and passionate about our school and the children and I am so proud to be part of that.

We must make a lot of important decisions as a board, and we talk things through in depth and think of every possible circumstance and how it will affect the children. Everything we do is for the children and that is what is so great about the WIS Governing Board.

I have a key role in monitoring particular lessons and ensuring that the subject is consistent throughout the school and year groups. I am due to start this in the new term and I cannot wait to observe lessons and see the subjects being taught and watching the children learn.

I am also a parent of a child at the school and the team listen to my views and opinions and always take them on board. It's great to be heard and have a say in the future of the school and more importantly the children.



Statement from Adina Murataj

As a parent governor and the SEND governor, my role is to represent the views of parents while supporting the school's efforts to provide the best possible education for all pupils,

including those with special educational needs and disabilities. This year, I had the pleasure of visiting the school and meeting with the SENDCo, whose passion and professionalism were evident in her dedication to ensuring the best opportunities, support, and guidance for both pupils and staff. I was deeply impressed by the robust provisions in place to help pupils achieve their potential, as well as by the vibrant and engaging learning environment I observed during my visit. It reminded me why I chose this school for my son, who comes home each day brimming with knowledge. As both a parent and a governor, I am reassured that the school meets my expectations and more. Being a parent governor allows me to see first-hand how school leaders shape the next generation and to contribute to this vital work. If any parents feel passionate about supporting our children's success, I wholeheartedly encourage you to contact the school about this rewarding role—it is a commitment, but one that makes a real difference.

As the year draws to a close, I would like to thank all staff for their incredible efforts in providing high-quality education for our children and wish both staff and parents a joyous festive season and a wonderful New Year.



Do You Need Help?



Governors are aware that some of our parents/carers may need help to access our school website, or the information that we send home. If you need help or support in anyway, please let Mrs Ruane, Mrs Knight or a member of staff know. Please don't feel embarrassed to ask for help, any requests will be treated in the strictest confidence. It is very important to us as a school that **EVERYONE**, including parents and carers, can access all aspects of our school life wherever possible.



Pupil Premium Grant **(Free School Meals)**

Please remember that if your circumstances have changed and your child is now entitled to Free School Meals (which is different to Universal Infant Free School Meals) the school can claim Pupil Premium Grant funding and offer you support in a variety of other ways.

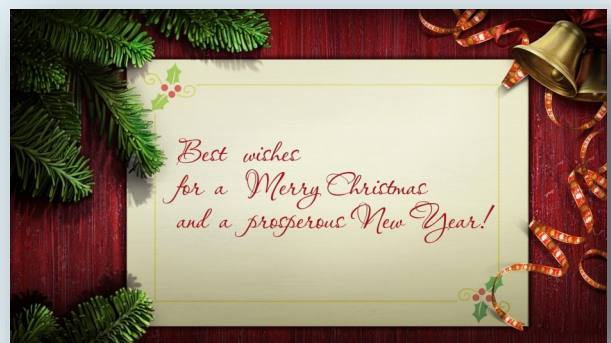
The Pupil Premium Grant funding for school is only allocated once a year in January. In order to get the full funding the school is entitled to, we need to have all those families who are

eligible registered as soon as possible.

The process is very easy and you can check entitlement by making one phone call:

Tel: 0116 3056588 or 0116 305 7093

If you need further information please ask Mrs Ruane or Mrs Babic as soon as possible.



Westfield Infant School
Everyone Learning Together Through Work and Play



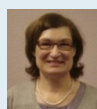
John Poultney
(Vice Chair)



Jane Henderson



Rebecca Henson



Gail Steele
(Chair of governors)



Reena Parmar



Anne Egan
(Clerk)



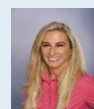
Jennifer Ruane



Katy Chuter



Dan Bassett



Adina Murataj



Katy Brown