

# Governors' Newsletter

## Spring Term 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,  
Although this has been a short term, it has been a very busy one. As you will have noticed, there have been several changes taking place. These include the introduction of the Little Wandle Phonics scheme and the

Primary Knowledge Curriculum. These changes were discussed at length last term and Governors agreed with Mrs Ruane and the Staff that they needed to be made.

The **good news** is that these changes are already having a **positive impact** and both children and staff are enjoying the new schemes.

As Governors, part of our role is to monitor what is happening in school. After in depth training last year, that several of our Governors participated in, we have been visiting school to see the new schemes in action. We have talked with children and staff and looked at work, and I'm delighted to be able to say that the impact has been very positive. I'd like to **thank you all** for the support you've given, and the very positive feedback that we have received.

Another area that Governors check each term is **attendance**. If children are not in school, they are not learning. Thank you to everyone for making such a big effort making sure that your children are in school. Our attendance figures at present are slightly above the national average which is excellent. **Thank you everyone!** There's no room for complacency though, we must keep working at maintaining that result.

Governors would like to thank the **WISA** team who are working very hard to raise funds. Thank you too, to all our parents and carers for supporting these events. I know the Easter Bingo is very popular and we noticed at our last Governors meeting that a lot of chocolate eggs had been donated to support the event.

I'm sure we're all looking forward to some nicer weather and hoping that the Easter break will be warm and sunny!

**Governors would like to wish all our families and Staff a very Happy Easter!**



**Gail Steele**  
Chair of Governors

### Safeguarding, Premises, Health and Safety



I am happy to report that there have been no major **Safeguarding** or **Health and Safety** concerns this term. All the necessary checks are carried out regularly and logged in the correct manner. We continue to look at ways in which we can further secure the school grounds and are hoping to receive funding from the Local Authority that will allow us to improve fencing.



Over half term a leak in the boiler room, that had caused some flooding, has been repaired. Some of the smaller rooms around school are being updated and re-purposed to provide extra space for both Staff and children to work.

We'd like to thank **Redshore Search Consultants** who have kindly donated several pieces of office furniture to help furnish some of these rooms.



**Gail Steele**  
Chair Safeguarding, Premises,  
Health and Safety sub-committee

### Finance and Staffing

The Finance and Staffing Subcommittee largely deals with the rather tedious parts of governance but which are rather important - particularly how much money comes into the school and how much is the school spending. The so-called cost of living crisis has an effect on us all; but it also affects the school. Many of the things that the school buys have become more expensive. Being prudent in the past left the school with some reserves which have been essential this year. Not only have many costs gone up, but we had an urgent need to update and improve our curriculum and that means spending on new resources that are very costly. The governors have supported the school's choice to invest in the curriculum despite the tight financial situation. We look forward to seeing the results of a new and exciting curriculum and the achievements of our children in the coming months and years.



**John Poultney**  
Chair - Finance and Staffing sub-committee

## Teaching and Learning



This term, the governors have been notably impressed by the **collaborative effort of staff** to implement initiatives at Westfield Infant

School. The **passion and commitment** demonstrated by the teachers has been truly remarkable.

During our meetings and monitoring visits, we witnessed lessons in progress, engaged with class teachers and subject leaders. The school is shaping an inspiring curriculum, ensuring that children receive good education.

## Every child matters!

Westfield Infant School is committed to ensuring that **all** pupils, regardless of their abilities or needs, feel valued, respected, and included within our school community. To this end, our SENDCO (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Coordinator), teachers and support staff have been working tirelessly to implement a range of strategies to promote inclusivity and support the diverse needs of our pupils with SEND.

The school places a strong emphasis on promoting the **emotional well-being** of our pupils with SEND. Our dedicated team works closely with pupils, parents, and external agencies to provide the support and guidance needed to help pupils manage their emotions and develop resilience. Individualized targets that are tailored to their specific needs and abilities are set. These targets are regularly reviewed and adjusted as necessary to ensure that pupils are making progress towards their **goals**.

In conclusion, I want to reassure you that our school is fully committed to promoting inclusivity and supporting the diverse needs of all our pupils, including those with SEND. If you have any questions or concerns about your child's SEND provision, please do not hesitate to contact our SENDCO.

**Adina Murataj, SEND Governor**



## 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)

## **Pupil premium**

Grant to schools in England

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.

## **YOUR VIEWS MATTER**

As Governors, we are always very interested to hear the views of our Parents, Carers and Children. We can be contacted via the school office. We are interested to hear how you think we can improve things for the benefit of all our children, so if you have any ideas, or feedback, that you'd like to share with us, please let us know.

## **Westfield Infant School**

*Everyone Learning Together Through Work and Play*



John Poultney  
(Vice Chair)



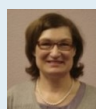
Jane Henderson



Rebecca Henson



Laura Jeffs



Gail Steele  
(Chair of governors)



Reena Parmar



Anne Egan  
(Clerk)



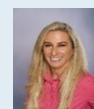
Jennifer Ruane



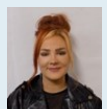
Katy Chuter



Dan Bassett



Adina Murataj



Katy Brown