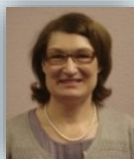


Governors' Newsletter

Summer Term 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

This has been a very busy school year. A year when we have made several changes to the way we deliver education to our pupils. As Governors, we are charged with doing the very best for the children in our care and sometimes that means making difficult decisions and changes. This was the case when we changed our phonics scheme and introduced the new primary curriculum because of reviews that had taken place. These have been in operation now for the past two terms and we are beginning to see the enormous benefits these changes have brought, but it will take time for this to be reflected in results. I'd like to thank all of you for supporting these changes. To drive school improvement, we need to continue to focus on embedding these new schemes.

As part of our plan to continue improving provision for our children, from the beginning of next term, our EYFS provision will move to the Sunbeam Base where all three Reception classes will be situated. Year 2 children will move into the main school building.

As result of a lot of Governor training that we had last year, we also changed the way in which Governors monitor what is happening within school, and this has proved to be very successful. We all now feel that we are much better equipped to offer support and challenge, one of the key aspects of our role as Governors.

This term, the Inclusion Quality Mark assessor visited our school. We are all delighted that as a result of the rigorous assessment that took place, we were re-accredited with the ***IQM Flagship status award***. Inclusion across all areas is very important to us as a school.



At the end of term, we will be saying "Goodbye" to several valued members of our Westfield Team. Mrs Parkes, Mrs Babic and Mrs Wilson are all retiring. They are all long serving and valued members of our team and have made an enormous contribution to our school. We'd like to thank them all for their dedication and commitment, and wish them a very long and happy retirement.

We would also like to thank Miss Hamilton, who has played a big role in developing our Resource Base and supporting our SEND children, and Mrs Hutchinson who supports our classroom staff. Both will be moving on to pastures new at the end of this term. We wish them success in whatever they choose to do in the future.

This time of year we say "Goodbye" to our Year 2 pupils. We hope that they have enjoyed their time at Westfield Infants, and that they will be very happy at their new schools.

Governors would also like to thank all our parents/carers, for your support during the past year. I hope you have a lovely summer break and look forward to meeting many of you again in the new school year.

Finally, I'd like to thank Mrs Ruane and the amazing Westfield Team. The challenges this year have been enormous, but they have all worked extremely hard and without complaint to support and overcome every challenge they have faced. It's a privilege to be part of such a fantastic team. Thank you everyone!

Gail Steele, Chair of Governors

Safeguarding, Premises, Health and Safety

Work will take place over the summer to install new fencing along the pathway by the Sunbeam Base. The outside area will then have a tarmac playground added. This will mean that the area will be ready for the Reception classes to use for as an additional area for continuous provision.

Inside the main building the library will be moved and situated along the central corridor, and the present library area will be developed to provide additional space for children in our Resource Base.

The Local Authority will be installing a new pathway between our school and the junior school to enable parents and carers to move easily between the two schools at the beginning and end of each school day. This won't be ready for the beginning of term, but there will be a clearly marked temporary pathway in place until it is completed. There will be no facility for cars to park in the school car park unless they have a pass.

All our statutory duties in relation to Safeguarding have been met, and there have been no Health and Safety issues reported. A Health and Safety audit will take place at the beginning of the autumn term.

Finance and Staffing



We received the new budget in March and with very little uplift in funding it will continue being a challenge to achieve everything we would like to. We have set the budget for the next financial year with these challenges in mind. As always, our focus is managing the expenditure without it impacting on the quality of education we deliver.

With the retirement of Mrs Babic this summer we have taken the opportunity to restructure the school office and from the beginning of next term we will have a School Business Manager, Mrs Claire Mottram, who will oversee the school office. She will support Mrs Ruane and will be manage administrative procedures throughout the school. This will give Mrs Ruane time to concentrate on Teaching and Learning and guiding school improvement. We will also be appointing a part time Admin officer/ Bursar. Mrs Worthington will continue to offer support in the school office.

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.

Do You Need Help?



Governors are aware that some of our parents/ carers may need help to access our school, 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.

At Westfield Infant School we use Class Dojo to share information and to help support learning between school and home. You can download the app on to your personal device. Each pupil should have received a letter with a QR code on to enable them to login to Class Dojo. If you have any problems accessing this app, please contact the school office.

Our 'School Story' section on Class Dojo will give you lots of updated information about school. Information will include diary dates and events, newsletters, reminders, and support for your family both at school and at home.

You will also have access to your child's class story. Teachers will regularly provide information, pictures and support tailored to your child's class and year group. Homework will be set on here and you will also be able to send and receive brief messages to and from class teachers.

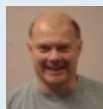
YOUR VIEWS MATTER

As Governors, we are always very interested to hear the views of our Parents, Carers and Children.

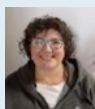
We can be contacted via the school office. We are interested to hear how you think we can improve things for the benefit of all our children, so if you have any ideas, or feedback, that you'd like to share with us, please let us know.

Westfield Infant School

Everyone Learning Together Through Work and Play



John Poultney
(Vice Chair)



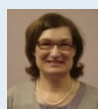
Jane Henderson



Rebecca Henson



Laura Jeffs



Gail Steele
(Chair of governors)



Reena Parmar



Anne Egan
(Clerk)



Jennifer Ruane



Katy Chuter



Dan Bassett



Adina Murataj



Katy Brown