



Childs Way
London NW11 6XU

Newsletter from the Chair of Governors

April 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you and your children had a good holiday and are looking forward to an exciting summer term, after a busy spring term. On behalf of the Governing Body I would like to thank the Head Teachers, the leadership teams, all teachers and support staff for their hard work and commitment over the term. Thank you also to the PTAs for organising events for parents and children. Last but not least, thank you to all governors for giving their time to actively support the schools' leadership in maintaining both schools' high standard of education and welfare for our children. Governing Bodies are required to take on evermore responsibilities, which puts increasing pressure on governors' time to fulfil their role adequately.

Latest News

Our thanks go to Shivangi Smythe and Charlotte Leigh who recently stepped down from the governing body. Both were very involved in governor work and actively supported and advised the Head Teachers, their committees and the full Governing Body. Their contributions are greatly missed.

We are very pleased to welcome Ruth Henrywood on board as Junior parent governor. Ruth will join the Inclusion Committee and be the Maths named governor for both schools. Our three other new governors began their term in the spring term. Aneka Grover has joined the Curriculum and Staffing Committees and is Literacy named governor. Tara Ward-Ammoun has joined the Curriculum and Premises Committees and is Pupil Premium named governor. Ziya Kocabiyik has joined the Staffing and Finance Committee and is named governor for Pupil Voice.

This term the Governing Body will co-opt an Infant Parent Governor and a Community Governor which will bring the Governing Body to its full complement.

In the Junior School we successfully appointed a third Assistant Head Teacher from September. Governors were also involved in revising the staffing structure for the Infant School. This is part of a restructure on which the Head Teachers will update you in more details later this term.

On Tuesday 17th April, the Infant school had a one day Ofsted inspection. Thank you to all the staff for their preparation and excellent professional approach to the day. The school will receive the Ofsted letter within three weeks, at which time all parents will be updated further.

Safeguarding & Children's Safety

We take Safeguarding and children's safety extremely seriously. Safeguarding procedures in the Infant and Junior schools are robust and up to date. In the Infant school, a full internal audit was conducted by the Head Teacher and the safeguarding governor as well as an external scrutiny by the LA Safeguarding Adviser. These confirmed that the systems and practice in place were fully compliant. Last year, Ofsted were fully satisfied with the Junior school safeguarding procedures and practice.

Chair: Mrs Françoise Wagneur

Vice Chair: Mrs Jane Harris



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However, Safeguarding and Online Safety are the responsibility of all adults, and it is crucial that parents and carers work with us on this matter. The schools run training sessions on Online Safety for parents/carers and the website contains information which should help you guide and monitor your child's use of social media and the internet. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher or the Head Teacher if you have any questions or concerns.

Road Safety

Another aspect we raised with you earlier was the safety of your children on the streets surrounding the schools at drop off and pick up times. The Council Traffic Adviser has visited the area. I also had a site meeting around Willifield Way with another governor and the local Councillor at drop off time. As a result, the council will be suggesting possible improvement to ensure that our families and children can walk and cross the roads safely. In consultation with the Council we are also strongly supporting active enforcement of penalty notices during these times.

To prevent any potential accident involving a child, please be mindful and help us by leaving a little bit earlier in the morning, using public transport or walking if possible and parking further away from the school. May I also remind you that stopping and dropping your child where Childs Way meets Willifield Way is not allowed. This is especially important now that the good weather has set in as many children run across the Green and cross the road over to Childs Way where, due to hedges and shrubs, visibility is restricted.

Governors' Focus in the Spring Term

Governors monitored progress on both schools priorities for this academic year, through committee work and named governor visits. I am pleased to say that children's progress is good and that the Junior and Infant schools are on target for meeting expectations at the end of the year. One of the focus for the governing body was for the schools to develop Pupils' Voice.

Infant school

The EYFS Lead is consolidating their child-led approach to learning and have introduced Tapestry, an e-monitoring system in which you, as parent/carer can take part. I hope you have found this is helping you to engage with your child's education. The EYFS team welcomes your feedback.

In KS1, a lot of progress has been made in embedding the Maths mastery approach which very much helps with the understanding of mathematical language and concepts and encourages mathematical reasoning.

In Literacy, handwriting is a focus and the new scheme put in place is having a great impact. Governors were able to discuss the current approach with the Literacy Lead and see evidence of good progress in handwriting and creative writing in books and on the displays around the school. Initiatives like "talk for writing" are having an impact on the quality of writing and pupils' engagement in their work.

I'm sure you have heard many good reports from your children on activities to do with the wider curriculum which last term included World Book Day, a maths and design technology week, tennis coaching at the local tennis club, the Iranian New Year celebration, to name just a few.



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The school is also reinforcing “Behaviour for Learning” with specific praise in class, assemblies and certificates and recognition of pupils’ positive learning behaviour on displays. These support children’s engagement in their learning and there is evidence that most children understand the concepts and are able to relate to them.

Finally, pupils’ voice in the Infant school is developed by having active circle time, children’s conferences and some Year 2 children taking responsibilities to be “play leaders” during lunchtime. These activities are very important to develop pupils’ confidence, critical thinking and a sense of belonging which have a direct impact on their learning and wellbeing.

Junior school

The Junior school is also focusing on “Writing at Greater Depth” this year and on pupils engagement/Pupils’ Voice. Governors were able to discuss the school’s strategy and see evidence of progress in writing through books and lovely writing displays across the school during a review visit and at the Curriculum Committee. This term the new named governor for writing will do a final progress visit with the Literacy co-ordinator.

The school’s leadership also organised a “whole school writing week” during which all year groups participated in creative writing based on one theme, “Catch a Lot”. Displays around the school show how successful this initiative was and the high quality of children’s writing.

Governors were pleased to see that the pupils’ council is now active. A governor attended a pupils’ council meeting and talked to the children. She was impressed by how articulate and at ease the children were when talking with her and by the responsibilities they were taking around the school. This was reinforced at the end of last term by the House Captains from Year 6 taking a science assembly for their houses during Science Week. Again, children were articulate and very much at ease when demonstrating their science experiment in front of their whole House. Governors are very pleased with this new initiative as the impact on pupils’ engagement is evident.

As in the Infant school, the Junior school ensures that the curriculum is wide and creative. The highlights for this term were World Book Day, the athletics and netball competitions with other schools. Science Week and celebrating the anniversary of women being able to vote, to name only a few.

Best Wishes to All,

Françoise Wagneur
Chair of Governors

Jane Harris
Vice-Chair