



Widmer End Community Combined School

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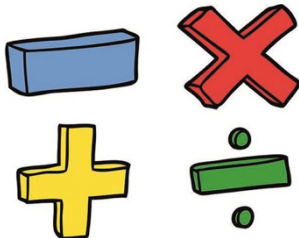
GOVERNOR NEWSLETTER – SUMMER 2022

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Well, another year has whizzed by! It has been lovely to be able to visit school on several occasions over the past few weeks to see the children enjoying some traditional end of term activities, including a very exciting Sports Day, a fabulous Year 6 production and a wonderful assembly to farewell the teachers, LSAs and admin staff who are leaving Widmer End at the end of this academic year. It is always sad to say goodbye to people who have shown such care and dedication to the school – some for very many years! – but I wish them all well and look forward to getting to know the new members of staff who will join in September to help Mrs Hillier, the senior leaders and the rest of the staff to continue to move the school forward. The governors look forward to working with them on the journey ahead.

Laura Air, Chair of Governors

MONITORING THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION



One of the key functions of the governing board is to hold the head teacher and senior leaders to account for the educational performance of the school. We were very pleased to welcome Mr Dutton, the Maths lead for the school, to a recent governors' meeting to hear about how Maths is taught at school, the progression of children through the school from Early Years through to Key Stage 2 and the vision for the future teaching of the subject at Widmer End. We looked at some data for the year and will be continuing to monitor the impact of recent changes to the Maths curriculum.

SCHOOL FINANCES

Governors are also responsible for making sure that the school's money is well spent. We have reviewed the budget for the coming year and will continue to monitor outcomes in relation to expenditure.

We are very grateful to the PTA, chaired by Liz Taylor and Laura Dell, for their ongoing support and tireless work raising funds for the benefit of all pupils. Pupil Premium is also a valuable source of income and helps to support a whole range of activities for children within school. With the increase in the cost of living, and the after-effects of COVID still being felt, you may now be eligible to apply for this funding. All you need to do is fill in a form – please contact the School Office in confidence if you think you may qualify and they will send you the appropriate details.



GOVERNOR VACANCIES



Zahid Rahman has recently stepped down as a parent governor and the board would like to thank him for his service over the last couple of years. This means we have a vacancy for a parent governor from September. If you'd be willing to volunteer for this very important role, please contact the Chair for an informal chat by emailing Laura Air on: chairofgovernors@widmerend.bucks.sch.uk

We also still have a vacancy for a co-opted governor. Co-opted governors are people from the local community – maybe a grandparent of a current pupil or someone whose children used to attend Widmer End – who is interested in helping support the school. Please mention it to anyone you know who might be interested! Being a governor is very rewarding.

JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

Widmer End always manages to mark moments of national importance in style, and governors were delighted to be able to view some of them in action this year as the school celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Mrs Air joined PCSO Alicia Grant and the Wycombe Sound Bear for the red, white and blue Walking Crocodile down George's Hill (*pictured right*), and Mrs Harvey attended the Jubilee Tea Party at school in the afternoon and thoroughly enjoyed her homemade scones!



GOVERNOR VISITS THIS TERM

Governors have visited the school this term to carry out monitoring visits in the following areas: Safeguarding, Health & Safety, SEND, Wellbeing, PSHE, Pupil Premium, Sport Premium, EYFS, Literacy & Phonics, School Travel Plan. We have also conducted exit interviews with the members of staff who are leaving the school to gather valuable data to help shape future improvements.

CURRENT GOVERNING BODY MEMBERS

As of July 2022, the Governing Body consists of:

Laura Air, Chair (Parent)

Deborah Garvey Co-Vice Chair (Co-opted)

Stella Kalamaj, Co-Vice Chair (Co-opted)

Helen Carmody (Co-opted)

Laura Harvey (Parent)

Gemma Hillier (Headteacher)

Liezl van der Merwe (Staff)

Janet Mills (Co-opted)

Martin Skitt (Parent)

Karen Storrie (Local Authority)

For further information about our governors, please visit the website: [The Governing Body | Widmer End School](https://www.widmerend.bucks.sch.uk/governors)

WISHING YOU A VERY HAPPY SUMMER! SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER.