



## Governing Body update

April 2017

### Spring Term update

#### School Leadership

The Governing Body would like to formally thank Mr Crilly for his hard work and commitment to the school over the last three and a half years and we would like to wish him well in his new venture.

We would also like to welcome Mr Tom Hinkley to the role of interim Head Teacher from the start of next term.



*Tom Hinkley*

During this term, we have been carrying out the selection process to appoint a new head teacher. A panel made up of governors and a Local Authority school improvement advisor interviewed 3 short-listed candidates last week. After consideration of their performance at interview and in the previous day's tasks in school, the panel concluded that none of the applicants had the combination of skills and experience which governors were looking for to fill the role of head teacher at Woodthorne. To this end, we have agreed to extend the interim period of leadership provided by Mr Hinkley to take us up to Christmas 2017.

Whilst governors were disappointed not to be able to appoint a substantive head teacher, we are confident that this arrangement will give the school the quality of leadership and stability it needs whilst governors consider next steps in the recruitment process.

Governors would like to place on record their thanks to the Perry Hall Multi Academy Trust for their extended support and to all staff at Woodthorne during this important time for the future of our school.

#### Visions and Values

Thank you to everyone who has taken time to get involved in developing our vision and values for the school. As you may recall in the Summer term 2016 parents and carers were asked via a survey to contribute to developing new vision and values. A focus group was held in the Autumn Term with Governors and the PTA and a subsequent survey was carried out with all stakeholders in Spring 2017.

We can now launch our brand new Woodthorne Vision and Values:

## **Vision**

***“Inspiring a love of learning to last a lifetime”***

## **Our Aims**

We believe our children learn best when:

- they are happy
- they are safe
- teaching and teachers are dedicated to children fulfilling their true potential
- they can develop their confidence and think for themselves
- parents, carers, teachers and the school work together
- the school environment is welcoming and inspiring

## **Our values:**

We will encourage all children to:

- be happy
- be proud of who they are
- be kind
- be the best that they can be

In school, we will all demonstrate:

- Respect
- Determination
- Tolerance
- Independence
- Resilience
- Teamwork

Over the next term school leaders will ensure that these vision and values are woven into everything we do here at the school and we will be working with the school council to develop and implement a plan on how promote and embed them in school with our children.

## **Sad news – good bye to Mark Pursall**

Our thoughts and condolences go to Mr Pursall’s family who sadly passed away after a sudden and short illness. Mark had been the school caretaker for over 25 years. We would like to thank staff, parents and carers for supporting Mark’s family during this tragic time.

## Changes to the Governing Body

We have seen several changes to the Governing Body over the last term and we would like to extend our thanks and gratitude to Russell Stanley who has now resigned from the Governing Body. Russell has been chair for almost two years and a member of the governing body for almost four years. We would therefore like to welcome Emma Woodhouse who re-joins the Governing Body as chair. For those of you who have children in Years 5 and 6, Emma was a co-opted governor for the school in 2013 and has a wealth of experience in school governance and leadership.

Other changes to the Governing Body include saying goodbye to Nikki Kimbell (co-opted), Phillip Farmer (co-opted) and Ann Turley (parent) and we would like to thank them for their support to the school. In addition, we would like to welcome and congratulate Ian Moore and Ranjit Khular for being elected as the new parent governors. Also, we would like to welcome Vicky Baker who is a new co-opted governor. Shelley Brooks (formerly parent governor) has also now been co-opted to the Governing Body.

*A full list of the governing body is detailed at the end of this newsletter (page 4)*

## Congratulations and thanks

We would like to congratulate the PTA for again organising a successful Spring disco and Easter Egg Hunt. There is no doubt that the school continues to benefit from such a committed and supportive group of parents and carers.

This term also saw the school raise more than £500 for comic relief – a fantastic achievement for teachers, children and parents alike.

We would also like to thank Blakemore Wholesale Cash and Carry who sent a team of volunteers to carry out some free ground maintenance work outside the key stage two building.

**We would like to wish everyone a happy Easter break and look forward to seeing you all back at school on Monday 24 April.**

## The Governing Body

The Governing Body has an important role in the smooth running of the school and is responsible for:

- Aims and policies
- Appointment of staff
- Special educational needs
- Relations between the school and the community
- Use of the school premises
- Agreeing and monitoring the school improvement plan
- Equal opportunities
- Management of the school budget
- Admissions
- Discipline and attendance
- Complaints procedures
- Charging arrangements
- Provision for sex education

All of these areas develop through a partnership between the head teacher, school staff and local authority. The Full Governing Body meets twice a term, and the head teacher produces a progress report each term.

A number of committees meet usually once a term or when required, as indicated \* below, and report to the full Governing Body.

### Governors (*alphabetical*)

Name	Governor type
Mrs. V Baker	Co-opted
Mrs. S. Brooks (Vice Chair)	Co-opted
Mr. T. Hinkley (head teacher)	Staff
Mrs. A Gibson	Co-opted
Mr. R. Khular	Parent
Mr. I. Moore	Parent
Mr. I Rispin	Local Authority
Ms. K Sidhu	Co-opted
Miss. K. Titley	Staff
Mr. J Welsby	Co-opted
Mrs. E. Woodhouse (Chair)	Co-opted

### Committees (*\*indicates meetings held only when required*)

Resources	Pupil discipline*	Appeals*
Curriculum and Standards	Staff dismissal *	
Appraisal *	Health and Safety*	

If you have any queries about this newsletter or would like to contact the Governing Body please telephone or email the school.