



## Governing Body update December 2012

*Welcome to our first Governors' update. As part of our commitment to improving our communications with parents and guardians, we will be producing an update at the end of every term. In future editions we will update you on the issues we have been discussing and decisions made. We will also use this opportunity to celebrate achievements at the school. On page 2 we have listed the names of the Governing Body and the committees for your information.*

### **Autumn term update**

Clearly this term has been dominated by the Ofsted inspection, but whilst we are disappointed with the result, we are confident that Mr. Alcock and staff now have a clear plan of action to move us back to a 'good' rating and beyond. We would also like to formally congratulate Miss Titley for her successful appointment to the role of Deputy Head and Staff Governor. We are confident that her appointment will help to move the school forward.

You may recall the letter Mr. Alcock sent to parents at the end of November; which outlined the improvements we need to make. As part of this plan, Governors have now undergone a review which was carried out by the local authority. Next term we, the Governing Body, will receive our own development plan; which will help us to make sure that we are doing everything we can to make Woodthorne School achieve its potential.

### **On the right track.....**

As part of our strategic responsibility to the school, we will of course be closely monitoring the school improvement plan to make sure it is moving in the right direction. This week the school received a routine visit from Her Majesty's Inspectorate (HMI), which is normal after an Ofsted inspection. They looked at how the school was rising to the challenges of the inspection, and the good news is that the school is on the right track and we are well on the way to meeting the good grade once again. The details of this visit will be published on the Ofsted website, and there will be a letter to parents in the New Year.

### **Lots to celebrate**

We have a lot to celebrate about the school and would firstly like to congratulate the pupils for such excellent Christmas performances, and the staff for all of their hard work. We are always amazed that every child seems to be in the right place at the right time; a real achievement. Our after-school club took over 60 children to see Jack and the Beanstalk at the Grand Theatre in Wolverhampton. We would like to thank staff for their efforts in making this such an enjoyable trip for the children. In addition many Christmas dinners and parties have been prepared and a good time has been had by all; again a massive thank you to staff involved. We would also like to formally recognise the hard work that the PTA (Parent Teacher Association) does, and in particular for raising over £2500 at the recent Christmas fair; an excellent achievement. It goes without saying that we are always grateful to parents, families and the local community for supporting such events.

Finally we would like thank former Governors, Mrs Schneider and Cllr Stevenson for their commitment. We would also like to formally welcome our new local authority Governor Councillor Hardacre, who started mid-way through this term.

**We would like to wish all parents, pupils, staff and governors a very merry Christmas and happy New Year.**



### School governors

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 usually meets once 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 \* see below) and report to the full Governing Body.

### Governors

Name	Governor type	Link
Mrs. B. Oxley	Community	English
Rev. T. Mullings	Community	
Vacancy	Community	
Mrs. G. Cox (deputy)	L.E.A. (local education authority)	Looked after children RE/Safeguarding/science
Mrs. J. Hodgkiss	L.E.A.	
Cllr. M. Hardacre	L.E.A.	
Mrs. J. Bagary	Parent	Equal opportunities/Wellbeing
Mr. D Baker	Parent	ICT
Mr. N. Betteridge	Parent	Child protection/Maths/Wellbeing
Mrs. S. Brooks	Parent	Communication/Community cohesion
Mr. G Gill (chair)	Parent	PSHE/Special educational needs
Mrs. A. Turley	Parent	Art/PE
Mr. D White	Parent	
Miss R. Edwards	Staff	Safeguarding/Safer recruitment
Miss J. Short	Staff	Modern foreign languages
Miss K. Titley	Staff	

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

Finance and General Purposes	Pupil discipline*	Dismissal appeal*
Curriculum	Staff dismissal *	Pay appeal Committee*
Performance Management		

**If you have any queries about this newsletter or would like to contact the Governing Body please telephone or email the school or contact Ruth Mashiter, Governor Clerk, Wolverhampton City Council 01902 558220.**