



Governing Body update

July 2016

As part of our commitment to improving our communications with parents and carers 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 pages 5-6 we have provided general information about the Governing Body including names and the committees for your information.

Summer Term update

School Performance

Since 2012, the school has risen from 47th to 7th place in the Wolverhampton School league tables. In recent years this improvement has been accelerated. We believe that this is due to the appointment of Mr Crilly, Miss Titley, their new leadership team and a committed staff. As well as hardworking pupils and supportive parents and carers. We would like to pass on our sincere thanks to everyone who have shown tremendous dedication to achieve this.

In terms of educational attainment our school is at the top of the table for the Tettenhall, Compton, and Finchfield areas and early indications suggest that in this year academic year we are set to have another great year in terms of performance.

Governors monitor closely the school's attainment overall and we have recently requested, that in addition to receiving regular performance data, subject heads are required to provide a termly report on their progress.

School Staffing Review and School Budget

As parents you are already aware that this year the school has had to undertake a staffing review in order to meet the needs of the school budget following a reduction in school funding.

Obviously any decision to restructure is not taken lightly and we, like schools up and down the country, are having to take difficult decisions to balance the books whilst remaining focussed on improvement.

We have had to look at various elements of the school budget and this has included removing the school subsidy for school meals and increasing the rate to the local authority recommended price.

In addition, we have reviewed the fees for the breakfast/after-school and holiday clubs. We also had to take the regrettable decision to close the Play 'n' Stay club for pre-school children but we are delighted that the Tettenhall College is taking on this provision.

As a school we have also had to look at the teacher, teaching assistant and higher level teaching assistant ratio compared to other schools across the country. You may be already aware that as our Year 6 pupil numbers for the next academic year are low we are supporting Mr Crilly's decision to have a single Year 5 and 6 class with plans in the following year to revert back to a 2-form Year Six entry. We are confident that this strategy will not hinder our educational offer to pupils and this is borne out nationally with many schools across the country who have already adopted this approach not showing a decline in attainment.

Our new structure now reflects an appropriate level of staff per pupil ratio and we would like to reassure parents and carers that this will continue to support our improvement journey to achieving outstanding status.

Teaching arrangements for September

Year Group	Teacher(s)	Support Staff
Nursery	Mrs Potts	Mrs Elcock
Reception	Miss Jones Mrs Tudor	Miss Rose Mrs Ghakal
Year one	Mrs Perry Miss Mahay	Miss Smith
Year two	Mrs Jellis Mrs Walker	Mrs Deighton
Year three	Miss Day Mr Hitchin	Miss Edwards
Year four	Miss Short Miss Laird	Mrs Whiddon
Year five and six	Miss Eardley (Y5) Miss Titley (Y5/6) Mrs Watkins (Y6)	Mrs Bott Mrs Marsden
Providing teacher cover across year groups	Mrs Cotterill Mrs Fellows	

We would also like to send our appreciation to staff who are leaving us at the end of this term for their hard work and we wish them well for the future.

- Miss Ball (Year 1)
- Mrs Bolas (Nursery and Play 'n' Stay)
- Mrs Butler (Key stage 1)
- Mrs Harris-Thomson (Reception)
- Mrs Mundy (Year 4)
- Mr Richards (Year 2)
- Mrs Rothery (Reception and Head of Early years)
- Mrs Sodhi (Year 2)
- Mrs Talbot (Reception)
- Mrs Turley (Play 'n' Stay)

Extracurricular activities

We are pleased to see that the school continues to provide a range of extra-curricular clubs; Football, Spanish, Computer club, dance, table tennis, tennis and Karate to name but a few.

Parents & Community

Parents and Teachers association PTA



We would like to thank the Parents and Teachers Association for their tireless efforts for raising well-needed monies and equipment for the school. We welcome their funding of the license costs for Education City which provides key online resources for both staff and pupils. In addition the PTA have recently funded some Design Technology resources for cooking in school.

Governors attended PTA's Great British Bake Off and we were delighted to see that the school's profile was raised as this was reported in the local press as well as over £1100 being raised.

In addition, the second ever disco for reception children was held this term and was a great success as well as the Key Stages 1 and 2 end-of-year discos.

The PTA will shortly be sending out an electronic questionnaire to seek your views on future development of the association and we encourage you to take part.

As governors we are now also regularly attending PTA meetings.

Communication with parents and carers

The Governing Body is keen to make sure that parents and carers are kept well informed about their children's performance and the school in general.

Through a recent survey we were reassured that parents and carers have told us that they feel well informed (96%) on their child's performance and about the school and that 89% say the school responds well to parent and carer concerns. However, we know that we can do more in terms of helping parents and carers to support their child's learning and we will be exploring this at future governor meetings.

We have also commissioned the use of the online platform Parent Mail which we hope will further improve communications with yourselves and eventually in addition to having online instant communication you will

be able to pay for trips and lunches electronically using this system which will be available via a laptop or app on your phone in the autumn term.

Finally, you should have recently been notified and asked for your views on the school's values. We will publish further information in our newsletter next term.

As a Governing Body we are clear about the benefits of having a well informed and involved parent and carer community and we would like to thank you for your continued support.

Grounds maintenance and building improvements/repairs

Last term we saw a number of grounds maintenance improvements, particularly in relation to school lighting in the Key Stage 2 hall. Over the summer further lighting works are being carried out in Key Stage 1 Hall. Windows are also being replaced in the Key Stage 2 Hall. In addition, parents and pupils will see a new resurfaced Key Stage 1 playground when they return in September.

Congratulations and thanks

The school continues to achieve many successes and we are extremely proud of everyone's achievements.

In highlighting some of these successes we would like to congratulate the school at winning a recent football tournament (Y4) held at the Molineux Stadium, getting into the final of the Kwik cricket competition (Y4) and getting into the regional final for the Multi Skills Athletics competition held at Walsall (Y2).

A very well done goes to all of the school, who under the leadership of the School Council has raised over £1250 for Magnolia House (Birmingham Children's Hospital).

In addition, the school held a fantastic street party to celebrate the Queens 90th birthday. A good time was had by all, thanks go to teachers and parents for supplying the food and for making it such a huge success.

In other news our Year 6 pupils organised a fabulous Spanish Market to raise funds for their end of school production.

Recently year 6 pupils received some practical first aid training and we would like to thank West Midlands Fire Service for teaching our children these valuable skills.



Last week our Year 2 children put on an entertaining rendition of Pirate's and Mermaids and we were delighted to see the children putting their heart and soul into their performance.

We would also like to wish all our Year 6 pupil's well in their move to secondary school and we look forward to seeing them at their school production of Aladdin, school prom and leavers assembly.

And finally....

We would like to extend our thanks and appreciation to Mr Crilly and his staff for their continued effort in moving our school in the right direction. It is no mean feat in a school as large as ours. Our final thanks, of course, must go to our pupils, who work so hard, are a joy and are an immense credit to the school.

We hope all parents, pupils, and staff have a lovely summer break and we will see you in September.

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 for each term.

A number of committees meet usually once a term (or when required, as indicated * see over the page) and report to the full Governing Body.

Governors (alphabetical)

Name	Governor type	Tenure period
Mrs. S. Brooks (Vice Chair)	Parent	25.02.13 – 24.2.17
Mr. J Crilly (head teacher)	Staff	Permanent member
Dr. C. Grant	Co-opted	19.05.16 – 18.05.20
Mr. P Farmer	Co-opted	02.11.15 – 01.11.19
Ms. N Kimbell	Co-opted	18.01.16 – 17.01.20
Mr. I Rispin	Local Authority	08.09.15 – 07.09.19
Ms. K Sidhu	Co-opted	18.01.16 – 17.01.20
Mrs. R. Stanley (Chair)	Co-opted	02.11.15 – 01.11.19
Miss K. Titley	Staff	25.02.13 – 24.02.17
Mrs. A. Turley	Parent	25.02.13 – 24.02.17
Mr. J Welsby	Co-opted	02.11.15 – 01.11.19

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 or

- email Carole Betteridge, Governor Clerk, C.Betteridge@edwardtheelder.wolverhampton.sch.uk