

## Long Lane Primary

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! We hope you have had a fabulous Christmas and New Year.

Firstly, I would like to welcome our new governor, James Mortimore, onto our board.

During Term One the Governing Board and Resources Committee met twice, and the Operations Committee once.

Six governors have attended training sessions run by the Local Authority; this included understanding the role of the Governor, Safeguarding, Head Teacher's Appraisal, Effective Financial Management and Understanding Finance.

Three governors have visited the school this term to undertake monitoring activities, which have included Safeguarding, Pupil Voice on Bullying and School Vision.

We loved handing out Parent View questionnaires and having the opportunity to speak with and meet parents at the parent-teacher meetings. The feedback will be published shortly.

During Term Two, the Governors have conducted the Performance Management process for the Head teacher with the School Improvement Adviser. This is one of our statutory responsibilities.

We currently have vacancies for two co-opted governors, if you know someone that has a business background, but is not a parent at this school, please do get in touch with us as we would like these vacancies filled as soon as possible.

Our school website holds a wealth of information that will be of use to you. In addition, more information about the Governing Board, including our roles can be found on the 'Governors & Policies' page of our school website so please do take a look! <http://www.longlane.w-berks.sch.uk>

## Upcoming Events

### 1<sup>st</sup> February 2017

Full Governing Board Meeting

### 10<sup>th</sup> February 2017

Coffee Morning supporting **Parkinson's**, please do join the school council and myself from 8:50-9:30am for a coffee and a biscuit to raise money for the charity

### 5<sup>th</sup> April 2017

Full Governing Board Meeting

### 7<sup>th</sup> April 2017

Coffee morning supporting **CRY UK**, please do join the school council and me from 8:50-9:30am for a coffee and a biscuit to raise money for the charity

### 17<sup>th</sup> May 2017

Full Governing Board Meeting

### 12<sup>th</sup> July 2017

Full Governing Board Meeting

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Our coffee morning with the school council raised **£99.85** for **Diabetes UK**. Thank you all for attending and supporting such a worthwhile charity.

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## Updates from our Governors

### **Tom Hunt**

*I have been at Long Lane for 5 years now and continue to love teaching, and now being a governor at the school. I am proud to be a part of the huge amount of progress we have made as a school and look forward to more success.*

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### **Andrew Richards**

*This year I am associated with year 4 and enjoyed my first general visit during the autumn term to a very welcoming class. I have now been a governor for just over one academic year and fully enjoy working with and contributing to the activities of the school. As part of this I have now taken over responsibility as Chair of the newly named Operations committee, which encompasses the work of the two previously named Premises and Curriculum committees. Linked to this I am also now the Health and Safety governor and recently attended a Health and Safety course relevant to schools. Being a governor in all its forms is truly rewarding, especially in a school where all staff work extremely hard to support the children, and keep them safe! Seeing the behind the scenes operations and supporting those activities makes the time and effort in being a governor worthwhile and I would strongly encourage anyone with an interest to consider being a governor if they have the time.*

*This term I am looking forward to future visits to the school and year 4 - especially during a maths lesson!*

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| <p>Shirley Wilkinson (Chair)</p>         | <p><b>Foundation Stage</b></p> <p><b>Year 3</b></p> | <p><b>Rainbow Bhangra</b></p> |
| <p>Mike Boys/Gail Jugg (Vice-chair)</p>  | <p><b>Year 1</b></p>                                | <p><b>Disco</b></p>           |
| <p>James Mortimore</p>                   | <p><b>Year 2</b></p>                                | <p><b>Dance</b></p>           |
| <p>Andrew Richards</p>                  | <p><b>Year 4</b></p>                                | <p><b>Rock &amp; Roll</b></p> |
| <p>Simon Hunt</p>                      | <p><b>Year 5</b></p>                                | <p><b>Hip Hop</b></p>         |
| <p>Simon Bamford</p>                   | <p><b>Year 6</b></p>                                | <p><b>Techno</b></p>          |

Governing boards have a statutory responsibility to promote high standards at their school, and must monitor and evaluate its effectiveness in this respect. Through visiting our School, governors can get to know it better. The governing board is a corporate board and every governor will visit the School as a representative member of that board, not as an individual. An effective partnership between governors and staff, based on mutual understanding, benefits the whole School community.

Visits are undertaken to:

- \* Improve governing board knowledge of the school and the people that work in it.
- \* Assist the governing board in monitoring the implementation of the school development plan.
- \* Assist a governor to fulfil a specialist governor role such as inclusion.
- \* Assist the governing board in fulfilling its statutory duties.
- \* Assist the governing board in making informed decisions.
- \* To enable the governing board to see resources purchased by the budget being used by the school community – particularly the pupils.