

Long Lane Primary

Dear Parents and Carers

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

One of my main aims is to keep you informed as to what governors do for your school, hence this governors newsletter which will now be published twice a year.

The government has made significant changes in the educational sector, which continues to have a big impact on schools. This means that governors and school leaders are adapting quickly in often challenging situations. We of course thrive on changes and take on all the challenges by adapting the way we work, going to courses, keeping up to date and striving to keep one step ahead. All school governing policies are also undergoing an update in line with new legislation.

I would like to welcome our two new governors, Simon Bamford and Andrew Richards, on board.

During Term One the Governing Body has met twice, and our committees have also met twice. Four governors have attended training sessions run by the Local Authority; this included understanding the role of the Governor and Undertaking Performance Management.

Three governors have visited the school this term to undertake monitoring activities which have included Safeguarding and Maths at Key Stage One.

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

Our new, easier to navigate website offers a governors' section which includes information about each governor,

Upcoming Events

27th January 2016

Full Governing Body Meeting

4th March 2016

Coffee Morning, please do join Mr. Thorne and I from 9:00-9:45am for a coffee and biscuit. It would be lovely to meet you and hear your views.

9th March 2016

Full Governing Body Meeting

25th April 2016

Long Lane 50th Birthday

11th May 2016

Full Governing Body Meeting

13th July 2016

Full Governing Body Meeting

Important Announcement

We would like to thank Mike Lowery for all his time and dedication to the school for the last 13 years. He was an inspiration, and we would like to thank him for his generous donation to purchase books for the school library. I know it was one of his passions and now the children can also share in his love of reading.

governing policies, attendance and meeting dates. You can find our page on the school website at <http://www.longlane.w-berks.sch.uk>

The governors would all like to give a huge vote of thanks to the PTA who raised £3800 at the Christmas Fair. They do such amazing work for the school. This term they have purchased televisions for every classroom in the school, which has made such a big impact on the way the children are taught. The PTA have also contributed to the library books and many more important items in the school.

Please do read on for more news about what is happening here at Long Lane. I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy New Year!

Shirley Wilkinson

Chair of Governors

Premises Committee News

Its been a very busy year. The main projects that you will have noticed are those addressing the front of the school, with the new fence, new school sign and recent extra tarmac areas to reduce 'muddiness'.

Our caretaker Kim has worked hard all year, not only on the day-to-day maintance and protection tasks, but also on improvements to, for example, the heating system, doors and floors around the school, external canopies, and many others. We thank him for his commitment to the well running of the school.

We have had some problems with intruders this year – youths at the beginning (resolved), and badgers towards the end (we're still working on this).

We have been working on the school's security and access arrangements and procedures in all sorts of emergencies.

We said goodbye to Mike Lowery in the summer, but welcomed Andrew Richards to the committee in September. He will help us with our early plans for 2016 which include major upgrades to the hot water system, repairing the narrow windows around the school, and improving the boy's toilets.

And last but not least we have been updating all the necessary policies.

Rick Jones

Pay, Personnel and Finance Committee News

The Pay, Personnel and Finance committee has met twice since the start of the current academic year. The committee has reviewed a number of the school's policies this year these include the financial management policy. The committee also reviewed the skills analysis of Governors to ensure that the governing body has the appropriate skill set in order to perform its function effectively. The committee also reviews the current financial position of the school at each meeting and we can report that the school is operating within its set budget.

Gail Jugg

Curriculum Committee News

The Curriculum committee has been busy reviewing a number of policies this term, in line with the policy schedule. Each policy is reviewed by the appropriate staff member before the curriculum committee discuss, suggest changes (where necessary) and then agree on the final policy.

The documents reviewed by the curriculum committee this term includes;

- The Home School Agreement which now incorporates information about safe use of the internet and use of library books.
- The PE policy was updated by Mr Hunt and agreed by the committee
- E-Safety policy was updated by Mr Thorne and agreed by the committee

Katie Ayres



Governors

Shirley Wilkinson (Chair)

Gail Jugg (Vice-chair)

Martin Gubb

Rick Jones

Mike Boys

Simon Hunt

Andrew Hazell

Darrell Forkin

Bernadette Funnell

Simon Bamford

Andrew Richards

Rachel Mileham

Peter Thorne (Headteacher)

Katie Ayres (Deputy headteacher)

Sarah Helms (Clerk)