Message from the Chair of Governors

Welcome to the first of regular Governors’ newsletters that are designed to help the school community to get to know the governors and obtain a better understanding of what we do.

This term we are excited that, after what seems an age, we finally have a school on a single site. This has been a long time in the planning and construction and we are really looking forward to the benefits it will bring to the whole school community.

All through this process the governors have been working with Mr England and his team to focus on ensuring that Wellington provides the best possible education for our children, this will continue to be the focus as we move forward.

Kind regards.

Neil Bridger, Chair of Governors

Who are the governing body?

Introducing the governors

There are currently ten governors for Wellington Community Primary School. These include the Headteacher, a staff governor, an LEA representative, two parent governors and five co-opted governors. They are:

David England – Headteacher
Neil Bridger LEA representative (Chair of Governors)
Chris Williams – Parent Governor (Vice-chair of Governors & Chair of Curriculum & Standards Committee)
Anne Hoad – Staff governor
Susanna Rees – Parent Governor (Chair of Finance & Personnel Committee)
Jenny May – Co-opted Governor
Jennifer Evans – Co-opted Governor
Mark Brosnan – Co-opted Governor
James Bayliss – Co-opted Governor
Christopher McQueen – Co-opted Governor

What do governors do?

Governors are all volunteers who give up their time to support their local school. We:

- Scrutinise and support the work of the school and make sure that the money received by the school is well spent for the benefit of pupils’ education
- Ensure a safe and supportive environment for all pupils in the school
- Monitor the educational performance of the school and its pupils.

How do we do this?

We work in two committees:

- A Curriculum and Standards Committee which monitors pupils’ progress and achievement
- A Finance and Personnel Committee which monitors spending, health and safety and staffing.

Each committee meets twice a term and reports back to the full governing body, which also meets twice a term.
How do governors get involved in the life of the school?

Governors are involved in the life of the school in many ways. Have you met us as we are around and about in school, for example, at Parents’ Evenings? We like to get opportunities to talk to parents on these occasions.

Governors also visit to talk to staff and observe teaching throughout the school. Our visits for this purpose are pre-arranged and will focus on a specific area related to the School Improvement Plan (SIP), such as English or Maths.

Governors are also involved in the selection and appointment of teaching staff, particularly for senior appointments.

We take part in school trips and attend school events such as class assemblies.

We do regular Health and Safety visits to check the school environment. We also carry out audits of finance and monitor value for money.

How do I contact a governor?

All governors are contactable through the school office. You can either leave a message for them, or e-mail the school, who will pass it on to the relevant governor or governors.

Governor profile

Neil Bridger, Chair of Governors

I have been a school governor for about 14 years, first on the finance committee and then as Chair of Governors of my sons’ Junior School in Alton.

Once my three sons had all left the school, I decided to step down as a governor. I was then asked by Hampshire to become an additional governor supporting schools in Rushmoor, a role which I continue to undertake whilst working with a school in Bordon. I have been involved with Wellington since the start, having been on the governing body of the junior school and the temporary governing body.

I work in pre-construction for a large construction company. To relax, I enjoy watching Rugby be it my local club in Alton or London Irish.

The new community room.

Drop in on parents evening to have a look round, or a chat and a coffee with some of the governors.