

## Governors' Newsletter Summer Term 2015

This term sees the end of Tracey Jarrett's first year as our Head Teacher and I would like to acknowledge her enthusiasm and commitment to the job. I have thoroughly enjoyed sharing her vision for the future and working alongside her and the staff team to make children's experiences at Downs Infant School even greater.

This term also sees the departure of three of our long standing school governors - Craig Mathieson, Iain Parkes and Jenny Smith and I wish them well. Iain has led the governors very professionally through the reams of data we are required to analyse and Jenny has been invaluable in chairing our finance committee and bringing her expertise into school. Thank you ALL.

Back to business!

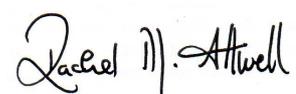
- Our summer end of Key Stage 1 assessments continue to show that our children do very well academically.
- The school's financial position remains balanced even on an increasingly tight budget and we are able to introduce some much needed resources thanks to astute financial management.
- We continue our Collaborative Working Group with Downs Junior School, forging stronger links between the two schools.
- On a personal level, I would like to say a huge thank you to all the school governors who give their time freely and willingly.

At the end of last term we invited all parents/carers attending consultation evenings to complete a survey about our school. Thank you to everyone who took the time to do so. Overleaf is an analysis of the feedback which was, as in previous years, very positive. Credit to all the staff and especially Tracey Jarrett and Tracey Grennan who have taken up the demands of school leadership with enthusiasm and hard work. We are in the process of finalising the School Development Plan for 2015/16, the results of this survey will feed into that. It is clear that the majority wish our uniform policy to remain as it is.

Should you have any concerns to bring to the governors' attention, we hold termly surgeries or contact myself, chair of governors, via the school office, either in writing or by requesting a return phone call, which I will do as soon as possible. However, the vast majority of concerns can, and should be addressed to your child's class teacher in the first instance and then, if necessary the Head Teacher.

Finally thank you to the children, staff and parents/carers - I hope everyone has an enjoyable summer break. For those children leaving Downs Infant School I wish them all the very best and hope they and you, as parents/carers, will take away some very happy memories. We look forward to continuing to work with those of you who will be here in September and the families of the 120 Reception children,

With very best wishes,



Rachel Attwell  
Chair of Governors

## Results of the survey of parents attending Downs Infant School, summer 2015

A total of 196 (130 last year) parents / carers returned the questionnaire; 69 with children in reception, 63 with children in Year 1, 61 with children in Year 2. 3 did not indicate the year(s) of their child(ren). This means that over 60% of parents/carers responded. We would like to thank everyone for taking the time to participate.

The statements about the school and how it is managed are modeled on those used by OfSTED. Parents indicated the extent of agreement with each statement using a four-point response scale: 1 = strongly disagree; 2 = disagree; 3 = agree; 4 = strongly agree.

The graph below shows that overall, parents are very pleased with all aspects of how the school is run.

