



Wychbold First and Nursery School

Chair of Governors' Newsletter October 2015

Dear Parents and Carers

I wanted to let you all know about the excellent work that is going on within the school and some changes to the Governing Body – some of which you will be aware of and some you won't. Mrs Sarah Rooney has joined as Parent Governor and is already making valuable contributions to the Governing Body. Following the most recent election process for the Wychbold Governing Body we are really pleased to welcome Mr Stephen Craner as Parent Governor. He will bring a wealth of experience with him and we look forward to working with him to support the School.

We still have one vacancy for a Parent Governor. This is a wonderful opportunity to gain a privileged insight into the work of the school and to contribute to its successful future. Please do let me know if you are interested in this opportunity. We would be particularly pleased to hear from parents with financial or building construction and planning skills as this is an area following our skills analysis where we have gaps.

A bit about the Governors of Wychbold!

The school governors are a group of local residents who have either past connections with Wychbold or an interest in the school. Our role is to work with the Headteacher and staff to develop the strategic development of our school, to ensure that each child achieves his or her full potential within a happy and supportive environment.

We are committed to the childrens' safety, well-being and achievement of high standards. We attend regular meetings, visit the school to undertake monitoring visits, have an area of curriculum oversight and attend training and information sessions in order to equip ourselves for the task of managing the school in an ever changing environment. We are pleased to receive views of parents and the community about any aspect of school life. We aim to engender a love of learning and for the children to be fulfilled and happy in a secure environment.

Who we are



Victoria Hancox – Chair of Governors: I was appointed as Parent Governor in 2010. Earlier this year I was co-opted as a Governor. I work for Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary as the Inspection Support Manager. HMIC is similar to Ofsted, but for the Police. I work with senior police officers and provide support to them by managing the regional budget, resources, processes and policies (it's more exciting than it sounds!!)

Eleanor Sinton – Vice Chair of Governors: Eleanor, a retired Headteacher, joined us in September 2014, she is making a valuable contribution to the Governing Body in respect of SEN, Safeguarding and Pupil premium.





Andy Shaw – Chair of School Improvement and Achievement Committee: Andy was a Parent Governor since 2011 and has recently been co-opted as a Governor.



Ed Webb - Ed Webb – A Governor since 2008. Chairman of Webbs Garden Centre. Ed's wealth of business knowledge has assisted Wychbold School immensely. Ed is the Chair of the Finance Committee



Rachel Kiernan – Since February 2015 Rachel has been a Parent governor. She works for Worcestershire County Council as a Project Manager in Children's Services. Her aim is to focus on the children and improving their outcomes.



Helen Key – Staff Governor. Helen took on this role in January 2015 and her position is important in providing a useful staff perspective.



Sarah Rooney – Sarah joined the Governing Body in June this year and brings with her a wealth of experience in a legal background.

Stephen Craner – Stephen works in a primary school as a senior manager. He manages the catering and health and safety for the school but works extensively with the children leading cookery sessions and supporting the children where he can. Stephen has a passion for the welfare of young people and works with the national youth advocacy service (NYAS) as a volunteer independent visitor to looked after children.

Clerk to Governors

We were very lucky earlier this year in appointing **Heather Somerfield** to the Governing Body as our Clerk. Heather brings with her many years of experience which will help her immensely in her new role, providing support and advice to the Governing Body. She plays a pivotal part in her role.

What do we have to look forward to during this term?

So much! Teachers are busy planning exciting school trips, visitors to the school, open days, phonics evenings, Madame Tussaud's Exhibition, Olympian visits!

Children are starting to prepare for our wonderful Christingle Service led by Eagles. Owls and Starlings will be busy practicing for their Christmas performance. We hope to enjoy our wonderful Christmas Fayre but this can only go ahead with the support of new Friends' volunteers. As Governors we are looking forward to the future development of the school as Wychbold village continues to expand and develop.

I look forward to continuing to work as Chair of Governors along with the superb team of Governors we currently have.

With best wishes

Victoria Hancox - Chair of Governors