

Governor Newsletter Summer 2023

Governors

There are no changes to the Governing Board this term, although we do still have a vacancy for a parent governor. Two governors will complete their four year term in the autumn, one of them being mine which ends in November; as a Foundation Governor my appointment is agreed by the Parochial Church Council and approved by the diocese so I will begin that process over the summer.

Actions

It is good to see that some of the work that we have been discussing in our meetings has now been completed. Mrs Mason has been working very hard to organise the contractors and balance the budget. In the current climate of rising costs getting things done in a timely manner and within budget has not been easy so we are grateful to our staff for their careful and detailed planning. The Cabin now has a properly insulated water supply; some of the schools energy efficiency grant has been used for this. Andrew Taylor will complete the work by re-joining the water pipe for the garden.

Each year in our Evaluation meeting at the end of the summer term we agree three areas of strategic focus. Last year one area was the development of outdoor learning. The development of the Forest school area was part of this and the Friday afternoon sessions have been very successful but I am sure that we will be looking at more ways to make use of this space.

I have been helping with the garden club and it has been lovely to see the children working together, planning what to do and taking pride in growing veg and caring for the garden. We are once again grateful to Geoff Higgin for donating tomato plants and sweet peas. Another focus was our understanding of curriculum. Governors have been visiting school, getting a more detailed view of how the curriculum is being delivered. As well as visits to the classroom to speak to subject leads we have had the chance to join in with different activities. Sally Hughes helped on the Cross-Country day and I accompanied the children on the trip to Wensleydale Creamery. It is very good to see their enthusiasm and interest first hand. I am also looking forward to going on the Let's learn Moor trip with kS2.

Wellbeing is a subject that we discuss throughout the year; thinking in regard of our pupils and of our staff. We work constantly to ensure that our school provides a safe and stimulating environment that promotes a feeling of wellbeing for everyone. Our third focus was on community and church links. Four governors are also on the Parochial Church Council and three are on the Friends of TFS committee. In a small rural school like ours the governing body provides an important link with the community as we all work together to make sure our school continues to thrive.

I hope you all have a lovely summer.
Helen Wilkinson
Chair of Governors