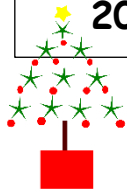


December
2017



Governors' Newsletter

Learners Today, Leaders Tomorrow



Welcome to the first edition of the Elmwood Infant Governors' newsletter! Each term we will report on what we have been up to and what our plans are for the future!

WHO ARE THE GOVERNORS?

The governors are a group of committed and active volunteers including parents who work in partnership with the headteacher and others on the senior leadership team to support school improvement.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR:

SHERIFAH TURAWA

Since 2015, I have had the great privilege to have been a part of the Elmwood Infants School community, as a parent, parent group member and governor. The warm and friendly atmosphere reflects the school's inclusive ethos which celebrates diversity, emphasises the importance of respecting the rights of others and builds children's confidence by instilling their right to individuality.



I have been inspired by the commitment to excellence from staff and governors to ensure that every child receives the best experience of learning and a high-standard of education. It therefore follows that I feel very honoured to have been recently elected as Chair of Governors for this highly aspirational and all-embracing school.

As Chair, I endeavour to provide leadership and clarity to the governing board, ensuring governors work as a highly effective team to impact positively on the outcomes of our school. It is important to me that our governing board meets the changing demands of our school's needs. To do this it is necessary that we continue to improve our professional development through training, systematic self-evaluation and goal setting.

As a team, governors run parallel with both the values and the vision of our school and we want to ensure that we take full accountability of our role as part of the strategic leadership of the school.

How Are Decisions Made?

Most decisions are taken at Full Governing Body Board meetings held once a term, but some of the work is delegated to the two sub-committees:

RESOURCES: responsible for the finances, premises and staff.

CURRICULUM: responsible for teaching and learning, pupil progress and achievement.

In addition to being committee members....

governors take on responsibilities linked to a specific aspect of school life. Linked governors contribute to the Governing Body's understanding of a particular area and therefore inform decision making.

Governors may be linked to a subject area e.g. Literacy or an area such as Safeguarding or Special Educational Needs (SEN).

We provide support to the headteacher and senior leadership team to strategically develop and adapt the delivery of an excellent standard of education that will enable each child to thrive and flourish to live a full and successful life.

We want parents, carers and staff to feel involved with governors and know that they are valued. So as a first step, we have produced this newsletter to introduce ourselves and keep you informed. We hope to continue to engage further with you and develop a strong partnership. We welcome your questions, comments and suggestions and we are happy for you to approach us in the playground, at school events or via the school office.

Here are the Elmwood Infant Governors!



Miss Zoe Harris
Head teacher



Muhammad Ali
Vice-Chair



Esther Payne
Staff Governor



Victoria Maltby
Disadvantaged Pupils



Stephanie Williams
P.E./Health and
Safety



Annette Williams
S.E.N./Safeguarding



Nicholas Burrows
Training/Development



Wayne Saul
Maths/Achievement



Ife Oyejobi
Rights Respecting



Dun Kuti
Early Years Foundation
Stage

This term the Governing Body have....

- Reviewed terms of reference for Curriculum and Finance committees
- Reviewed Early Years and Key Stage 1 attainment and progress data, evaluating progress and approving the schools' targets
- Approved the School Improvement Plan
- Reviewed Pupil Premium and Sports Premium expenditure and plans
- Carried out a Health and Safety audit
- Made link governor visits (Literacy, SEND, EYFS, Maths)
- Observed the fire drill evacuation
- Attended a Safeguarding Presentation for parents
- Attended EYFS Reading and Phonics Presentations for parents
- Attended an INSET day
- Judged competitions and presented awards at assemblies.
- Received the Headteacher's Report
- Reviewed the Teaching and Learning Policy
- Reviewed SEN information report on website content against statutory requirements
- Set up a steering committee to improve governors' involvement with the school and community including instigating staff questionnaires, an appraisal system for the governors and producing a newsletter.

In 2018 the governing body are planning to....

- Conduct learning walks and progress reviews
- Recruit for the vacant governor post
- Visit the school breakfast and afterschool clubs
- Improve communication with staff and parents
- Build relationships with other schools
- Attend training to develop their knowledge and skills
- Carry out a peer review to ensure the progressive development of governors individually

We are here to be accountable to you, the parents and community, and to support the staff in making Elmwood Infant School the best possible environment for our children. If you would like to make any comments or express any concerns then please contact the chair, Sheri, through the school office at



The governors of Elmwood Infant School would like to wish you all a very

HAPPY AND PEACEFUL CHRISTMAS!!!