

GOVERNOR NEWSLETTER FOR PARENTS

How do Governors support the school?

As a parent you want to know that the Lantern Lane Governors are making a positive contribution to the school and your child's education. We have an important part to play in raising the schools standards and effectiveness. We don't just sit around in committee meetings! Together we have 3 core strategic functions:



- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- Holding the Head Teacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils;
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

We do this in a number of ways for example: contact with all staff, work scrutiny, learning walks, meeting parents and children, questioning school decisions, committee meetings (Finance, Strategic Development, Pupil and Personnel). All the governors are volunteers, but go on training. We also have a Governor Improvement Plan to work alongside the school plan.

If you would like to talk to a Governor you can do so by contacting the school office.

Our priorities at the moment are understanding the implications of the new-build annex, the new curriculum and new assessment changes. The last two have been a huge task for all staff to create and put into place and they must be applauded for their efforts, with little national guidance. As parents you will have heard about the curriculum advances and the way each child will be monitored at Lantern Lane. If you still feel you need more information, please do let us know.

Governors are one of the largest volunteer forces in the country. Would you like to join us?

There are two vacancies on the Governing Body for co-opted governors currently. This can be anyone who thinks they can offer their time and skills to support the Governing Body, particularly finance and budgeting skills. Please contact the school office, everyone is welcome.

THANK YOU goes to CHEERS who organised a fantastically-attended Beer Festival in the village to raise funds to support Lantern Lane Primary School. An amazing £2200 was raised.



Annex Update

The Governing Body continues to work closely with the school and the Local Authority in order to make sure all arrangements are in place for the forthcoming extension to the school.

Parents Evening

Thank you to all of you that completed a questionnaire on enrichment activities at the parents evening. We must say thank you to all the staff at school who put on these extra activities. We will collate the responses and make sure your thoughts are put into actions within school wherever possible. Look for the next Governors newsletter for more details.

SPOTLIGHT ON.....

I have lived in East Leake for about 31 years so our paths may have crossed in the past, but the majority of you will know me as Luke and James Tinkler's mum. Having attended Lantern Lane Primary School as a child myself, I was keen to get involved in the school so became a member of Cheers Fundraising Group and later became the Chair of that group, but felt I could offer more. With a professional background in finance and my personal experience as a parent, I thought this would give me a well-balanced approach to being an effective school governor, so I'm now a Parent Governor and can share in the successes of the school!!

I'm passionate about ensuring every child has the best education possible and that they are given as many opportunities as possible. Amongst other responsibilities, I am Chair of the Finance Committee. I work with a team of governors to scrutinise financial information and ensure the school's budget is spent in the best possible way for the benefit of pupils. We also consider new policies and regulations that need to be introduced and regularly review old ones.

The Full Governing Body has the role of setting the budget and ensuring spending is kept within that budget. This involves working closely with the School Business Manager (Donna Griggs) who is responsible for the financial procedures within the school and providing management information to the Head Teacher and the Governing Body.

Road safety Update 2

A Governor from Lantern Lane and one from ELA, together with the two Heads, have held a meeting with Andrew Brown, our County Councillor. Initiatives to try and improve road safety were discussed; two that will be actioned are:-

(i) the issuing of "inconsiderate parking" notices and (ii) a request that the NCC CCTV van attend outside the schools at dropping of and picking up times. (See the ELA website if you haven't heard of this new initiative.)



**Tracey
Hayes**

Chair: Craig Baldwin

Vice Chair: Gillian Heath

Governors: Tim Baker, Lucy Keeley, Iain Lister, Anna Concilo, Tracey Hayes, Donna Griggs, Ffiona Baker, Caroline Jones, Brenda Knight, Chris Robinson, Jackie Vanderwalt, Wendy Fearnside and Nuala Thompson.