



**Harwell Community Primary School**

The Styles,  
Harwell,  
OX11 0HX

*Headteacher: Bryn Gibson*

**Telephone: (01235) 835337**

Email: [office.2563@harwell.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.2563@harwell.oxon.sch.uk)

Governors' newsletter 6: July 2nd 2018

Welcome to the Governors' Newsletter and the first one from me as Chair of Governors'. It is a joy and a privilege being a governor at Harwell school and to meet many of you at various functions and events during the year. Do come up and introduce yourself if you see me around the school at any time. You can ask any questions and find out more about the role of Governors.

As ever, it has been an extremely busy and successful year. The new sensory garden is almost complete and I know many of you were recently helping to plant the planters and tidy up around the grounds. The outside space enhances the all round education that is at the heart of Harwell school. It caters not just for the physical side of education but also supports the mental wellbeing of children and staff, providing a quiet, reflective space.

Harwell School Association (HSA) is an important partner to the school raising funds which ensures that the environment and resources can be improved in many ways. Emma Horwill took over as the new chair this year and we look forward to working alongside her, the committee and volunteers.

We maintain close links with Little Pippins Pre school and I know many of you will have children who attended there or who still do. The Governors of both establishments are looking forward to working more closely together and supporting each other.

As you know the after school club will be closing at the end of this term and the school will be opening The Barn. Lauren Paton has been appointed as Supervisor and will also be working part time in the school office ensuring that the Barn is run correctly. We welcome Lauren and look forward to seeing and hearing about the Barn when it opens at the beginning of the new school year.

I am a firm believer that it is a whole team that makes a great school and that everyone should be valued for their part in it. So no matter what you do whether its cleaning, cooking, teaching, supporting the teaching, volunteering, listening to children, you are all appreciated. Governors continue to support Bryn and all the staff in any way we can

whilst setting the strategic direction of the school. We would wish to thank them all, along with you and of course the children who go to make Harwell school so successful.

Best wishes,  
Ann Parham  
Chair of Governors.

### **This year....**

#### **Governor visits**

One of the ways that we are able to see for ourselves that the education provided is of the highest standard is to visit the school regularly both informally and for formal visits.

This year Governors have made many visits to the school including visits for:

Safeguarding and Health and Safety to ensure that all statutory requirements are met

Finance to ensure that monies are used appropriately and well

Monitoring the administration of SATs. We are pleased to report that these were administered correctly and that children were not unduly stressed.

Monitoring teaching and learning ensuring that these are of the highest standard and that pupils enjoy their learning.

Early years visit to FC to gain a greater understanding of how the outdoors area is being used to improve outcomes to children's learning.

Monitoring how the school is improving outcomes for all different groups within the school

Meeting the school council to listen to their views and ensure that they are listened to.

They were able to give examples of this including being involved in designing the new sensory garden.

In a less formal way Governors attend Pupil outcomes; join in sponsored walks and meet with all staff each term over a "bacon butty"!

#### **Governor training**

Governors bring to the governing body a range of skills and knowledge but they also continue to attend training to ensure up to date knowledge and the ability to acquire new skills.

This year training has included:

Induction training for new Governors

Data training so we understand fully the inschool data and the data which is submitted to the DFE

Appraisal training

GDPR training so we comply with the new requirements

Monitoring teaching and learning

Closing the gap to ensure that all groups of children make the best possible progress.

#### **GDPR**

The school has undertaken the appropriate training and has appointed Mrs Jane Moreton as data protection officer. You should contact her if you have any queries.

### Harwell School Governors

Tessa Avenell	Resources Committee, Whistleblowing governor
Nick Clarke	Resources Committee, Finance lead
John Dickens	Chair of the Resources Committee, Safeguarding lead
Bryn Gibson	Head teacher
Alison Goodall	Vice Chair, Educational Effectiveness Committee, Sports lead
Tom Gowers	Resources Committee, Maths & GDPR lead
Sue Greatbanks	Educational Effectiveness Committee, Inclusion (SEN & pupil premium) lead
Janice Markey	Educational Effectiveness Committee, Literacy/Phonics lead
Athene Milller	Educational Effectiveness Committee, Staff governor
Aisha Nevers	Resources Committee
Ann Parham	Chair of Governors, Educational Effectiveness Committee
Rob Sadler	Resources Committee, Health and Safety lead, Science lead
Richard Thompson	Resources Committee
Liz Waters	Chair of Educational Effectiveness Committee, EYFS lead
Jane Moreton	Clerk to the Governors