

'Aspire, Achieve, Believe'

Autumn term 2016

**Your school
your voice!**

Governors News

Who are your Governors?

by your Parent Governors

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Our Governing Board currently consists of 11 Governors plus the Head Teacher. The governors are drawn from the wider community and include parents (who are elected), members of staff (both teaching and non-teaching) and individuals who are chosen or appointed. These people bring a variety of skills and experiences to our school

For more information and how to contact us

www.highweekprimary.co.uk

then 'our people' and 'governors'

governors@highweek-primary.devon.sch.uk

All Governors can be contacted through the Clerk to Governors, Faith Cummins at the school office or via the email address above

Welcome to our 2 new governors, Claire Stickley & Sam Ward.

Sam writes: Hi my name is Sam Ward, I have just become a co opted governor. My family and I moved down to Devon almost three years ago now. I am a manager at a local Preschool, and my daughter has been at Highweek school for almost two years.

Claire writes: 'I am a Parent Governor and have two children. I have been a Careers Adviser for over 10 years, which has given me a lot of skills in developing young people and working with partner agencies, such as schools/colleges. I feel this experience and also having studied Education studies at degree level has given me the knowledge and understanding needed to help the school and it's children be the best they can be.'



Geoff Pring



Helena Manning

Your Governors who are parents are: Geoff Pring, Helena Manning, Claire Stickley and Sam Ward. Parent Governors represent your voice within the school and are able to give a parents/carers view of how decisions made within our school effect us all. We are happy for parents to come and talk to us.



Claire Stickley



Sam Ward

Parent Questionnaires Report, Spring Term

You may remember being asked a series of questions during the Parent Meetings held in early March. Governors and staff were on hand to welcome you into school and offer you the opportunity to share your views of your and your child's (children's) time at Highweek.

We were delighted that so many parents offered their time to express their views against a series of statements. In fact we reached 96 parents out of a potential 250. This means we have the views of nearly 40% of our parents. Thank you to those who took part!

97% said their child is generally happy at school
97% agree the school has a clear understanding of their child's needs
98% are pleased with their child's progress

We would acknowledge, that although still largely positive, there were still some statements that parents didn't agree with....

4% didn't agree that communication from school is good - we are improving our use of Parentmail to keep you in touch with events

4% didn't agree that the quality and choice of school meals is good - we have worked with ISS the caterers on an improved quality and choice of menu

12% didn't agree that communication from the governors is good - we will be producing a termly newsletter

We would welcome any further comments and recommendations from you regarding these results.

"We (parents) are very happy with our daughter's progress in school. She is settled and in embracing the world of learning and interaction."

Nursery parent

View the full Parent Survey Results on our website, following the 'Parents' then 'Parent Survey Results' link...

Words from the Chair of Governors, Daphne Watts

Highweek Governors welcome back all the children who are moving up a class this year, and we extend a special welcome to all new pupils and their parents.

This is going to be an exciting and challenging year for the school with the new classrooms opening after half term. Our thanks must go to Interserve, the building contractors who have worked so hard to make it happen.

We also would like to thank all the staff, especially our caretaker Chris Rogers, who came in over the summer holiday to make sure that we could open the lower school at the start of this term.

We hope that parents and the wider community will want to be part of the children's adventure through learning, and that you will take the chance to come into school whenever you are invited.

We would especially like parents and/or grandparents or those with time to help us establish and manage the garden - Grow Highweek perhaps! (details to be confirmed later).

Let's all help our children to be the very best learners. We are proud of them and we hope you are too.

Daphne Watts, Chair of Governors

What do Governors do?

As well as planning for and being part of strategic meetings we:

....are a presence at school open days and parent-teacher meetings

....attend school events such as assemblies and fairs

....make regular pre-arranged visits to school

....assist in the interviewing of staff

....raise the school profile in Newton Abbot and beyond, through our work and local involvement

If you think you could offer something to our school as a Governor then please get in touch....

School Expansion

I am sure, like us, that you are excited about the new Early Years Foundation Block being built on the old Coombeshead site. This expansion and the changes within the existing school buildings will be of huge benefit to all children and staff at our school. We look forward to the opening of the new block after half term.

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