

Governor Newsletter

Dear Parents & Carers,

As we approach the end of another busy and successful term, I want to take a moment to thank all the staff at our school for their hard work, dedication, and care. Whether teaching in the classroom, supporting pupils behind the scenes, or ensuring the school runs smoothly every day, your efforts do not go unnoticed. On behalf of the governing board, we are deeply grateful for everything you do.

I would also like to make a special mention for Mrs Jones and Mrs Mills for making such a positive start to their time here at Danbury Park. Slotting in to senior leadership positions is never easy, and takes hard work not to mention the support of the existing staff!

A big thank you also goes to the DPSA for their incredible work in organising the Christmas Fete. The event was a fantastic success, filled with festive cheer, creativity, and community spirit. Your dedication to fundraising and creating memorable experiences for the children is invaluable and makes a huge difference. We're so lucky to have such a supportive and enthusiastic parent association.

Finally, congratulations to all our pupils for their brilliant Christmas plays! It is a requirement, as well as a huge privilege and perk of the role, for Governors to observe first-hand these type of productions and we have not stopped singing your praises! Your hard work, enthusiasm, and talent shone brightly on stage, and it was wonderful to see the joy and pride on everyone's faces—yours, your teachers', and your families'.

An update from the Committee Chairs is captured on this newsletter, but as the term draws to a close, we wish all our pupils, families, and staff a restful and joyful holiday season.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to everyone!
Paul Sutton, Chair of Governors

Resources Committee – Chair, George Fraser

Key highlights from the Resources committee are as follows:

- You will be pleased to see the school car park has now been professionally repaired at the start of the term. It is hoped the new base will last for an extended period of time.
- Fortunately, our termly inspection noted no other major defaults that needed remedial action.
- In the context of falling birth rates and reduced admission numbers, we continue to monitor the finances closely with regard to maximising value for parents and the school.
- Food costs remain to the fore with regard to inflationary aspects.

On the wider school fabric/services, we would be keen to build a register of interested parties for contractors who would be keen to work on school projects when they arise. If you/your company would like to be included do let either the Chair of Resources or the School office know.

Curriculum and Pupil Related – Chair, Erica Quirk

The Curriculum Committee met in September. Highlights are captured below.

The End of Year assessment results (summer 2024) were reviewed, and Governors congratulated Year 6 on their achievements and thanked all staff for the continued commitment and hard work.

- Reading, Writing and Maths remain priorities of this year's School Improvement Plan. The School continues to follow and develop the approach to Writing adopted last year and it was noted that this approach was endorsed by the lead OFSTED inspector. In addition, a whole school focus on Oracy continues to be developed.
- Governor visits have been made to school to monitor the provision of English and Maths as well as to discuss pupil wellbeing.
- The Committee was pleased to learn that the Year 6 residential trip has been planned for the summer term.

Personnel Committee – Update by Katherine Moulding

The committee met in October noting the following business:

- The committee was pleased to hear that the school is currently fully staffed with the exception of one open Midday Assistant position.
- All new staff had completed the induction process successfully at the date of the committee.
- Since the committee met, performance management objectives have been set for all teaching staff in support of Teaching & Learning whole school targets.

Your Governing Body

Co-opted	Parent	Staff	LA
Paul Sutton (Chair)	George Fraser	Sam Jones	Jim Webb
Katherine Moulding (Vice-Chair)	Hannah Adedotun	Donna Johnston	
Erica Quirk	Matt Barber	Dielle Mills	
Sally Pain	Liam Preston		
Rak Rehal	Simon Towndrow		
Linda Thirkettle			