

Governing Body

News Update



Edition: JULY 2017

Welcome

Welcome to the High Firs Governors' Newsletter.

This is to update you on what your Governing Body has been doing over the past year.

You will receive regular updates on your child's progress throughout the year and at Parents Consultation Evenings and the Governor's role is to support the staff and the Headteacher in helping your child to make that progress and achieve their potential.

Contacting us

You can visit our page on the school's website to find out about us and if you want to contact a Governor you can do this through the school office.

New Governors

Would you like to play a role in your child's future and that of other children in our High Firs community? We would love to hear from any parents who might be interested in joining our Governing Board. We currently have two vacancies for Parent Governors. You would need to attend two to three meetings per term and visit the school on one or two occasions to talk to the children and staff and look at the work they are doing. If you feel this might be something you would like to volunteer for you can contact the Chair of Governors, Alison Marshall, through the school office for more information. She would love to hear from you.

Governor Visits

Each Governor is linked to one or more year groups as well as being linked to an area of the School Improvement Plan. This way the governors are able to make links with the staff and children and we enjoy watching a year group develop and grow with each year that passes.

We have visited each class on several occasions this year looking at their Reading, Writing and Comprehension; Maths and how it is developed as their skills improve; their Science, History and Environmental studies and PE and Music. We have reviewed books and spoken to the children, who are rightly proud of work they have achieved and are keen to show and discuss it with us. We have seen what a broad curriculum is in place in each year with

the variety of different ways the teachers use to engage and motivate the children. We have seen how hard the staff work at interventions helping those children who have difficulties with some of their learning, enabling them to catch up with their peers. We have seen the children at play where the older children give a helping hand to the younger ones, visited Assembly and have even been lucky enough to join two classes on their trips.

Training

As a Governing Board, we are always looking to improve our skills and our knowledge about education at High Firs. KCC support us with materials and arrange training events in different aspects of our role. In January the school

hosted our own bespoke event where the object of the training was to ensure that the Governors would be able to assist the school to be Ofsted Ready. It emphasised the importance for all of us in understanding the data and evidence of progress made by the children.

We want to thank the Head and Deputy Head for organising this important training for us.

Governors have also attended training for new Governors and for the use of School Sports Premium.

Summer Fair

It is always a pleasure to meet with parents at the many events that take place during the school year and not just at the Parents' Consultation Evenings. Once again, we

cheerfully manned the Ice-Cream Stall at the annual School Summer Fair. The Friends of High Firs and staff work very hard on the day to raise money which improves school life for every child and it's great to be able to help. The weather was kind – just about - and a great time was had by all.

On the Ice-Cream Stall, we did so well that we sold out of ice cream and were able to make a healthy contribution to the coffers. It was lovely chatting to so many parents and children, past and present.