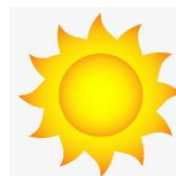


Governors' Newsletter

Summer Term 2024



Happiness at the Heart of Learning



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of another extremely busy and productive academic year, I would like to thank all the members of our Whitehall Junior School community for their contributions to the success of the school. In this edition of the newsletter, we will summarise some of the work of the governors towards our vision and strategic goals. Let's hope that we see more of the sunshine than the showers over the summer break!

Angela Doherty, Chair of governors

Thanks to members of the governing board



On behalf of the governing board, I would like to say a huge thank you to Kelly Barter, one of our parent governors who will be leaving us this summer. Kelly completed her four-year term of office last year and then agreed to stay for another year after her youngest son left the school. Kelly, who is herself a keen sportswoman, has been the link governor for PE and PSHE (Personal, Social and Health Education). Kelly has been a regular and enthusiastic supporter of our sports teams and has regularly visited the school for her link visits. At the last governors' meeting of the term, Kelly expressed how much she had enjoyed the governor role and how much she had learned from being a governor. As you will see below, we need to recruit new parent governors for the next term so I hope that you will consider joining us.

We would also like to thank Katya Henson for her contribution to the governing board this year.

Parents, have you considered becoming a school governor?

We currently have three vacancies on the governing board. At least one must be a parent but it would be great if there are more parents who would like to join the board. We have a set calendar of meetings and we also visit the school throughout the year. As parents you already have first-hand experience of Whitehall Junior as a school and this would enable you to share your skills and experience to support the wider leadership of the school. Please email governors@whitehalljunior.org or speak to Mrs Moloi or any of the governors to find out more. Also see: [Whitehall Junior School - Our Governors](#)

Governing board members 2023- 24

Kelly Barter (parent), Kieran Bassan (parent) - Chair of Resources Committee, Jennifer Bull (LA), Sally Davies (co-opted), Angela Doherty (co-opted) - Chair, Jane Guest (co-opted) - Vice-Chair & Chair of Pupils Committee, Katya Henson (co-opted), Sam Jones (staff), Manish Lath (co-opted), Anneline Moloi (Headteacher), Ashish Seksaria (co-opted) and one vacancy.

Well done Year 6!

Huge congratulations to all of Year 6 as they finish their time at Whitehall and move on to secondary school. The hard work of the pupils and all of the Year 6 team is evident in the excellent SATs results achieved this year. As governors, we are very proud of their achievements and wish them all well in their new secondary schools in September.

Year 6 Leavers' Production Peter Pan



I was fortunate to attend the Year 6 production of Peter Pan which was a wonderful showcase of talent and teamwork! The performance was fast paced and energetic, with all the characters wonderfully portrayed. The songs were sung beautifully and clearly and, as always, the costumes, staging and props made it another memorable end of year performance for Year 6 and their families.



Angela Doherty, Chair of governors

Reflections on our vision and strategic goals

Our Vision

'Happiness at the heart of learning'

In our welcoming and inclusive school, we strive to be the best in everything we do.

Strategic goal 1: To improve achievement across the curriculum



We are so pleased to report that Y6 SATs results are excellent with all outcomes showing a significant rise from last year and above national averages at age-related expectation. The support that has been put in place for all pupils, throughout the years, at Whitehall has been significant, allowing all pupils to achieve their best outcomes.

The percentage of pupils achieving a high score is also impressive with 53% of pupils achieving a high score in Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling. This is over 20% higher than national results! 40% of the pupils at Whitehall achieved a higher score in Maths. These are impressive results.

These outcomes are the culmination of all the hard work the teachers at Whitehall have put into their teaching, planning of the curriculum and supporting the pupils throughout their journey at Whitehall Junior School. Progress in other year groups is looking positive and the detail that teachers have at every stage is also impressive.

Our governor visits are always welcomed by the school and again the detail shared with us about plans in place, on-going developments and plans for the future show a lot of thought.

Congratulations to the pupils and teachers on these achievements.

Jane Guest, Chair of Pupils Committee and Special Educational Needs link governor

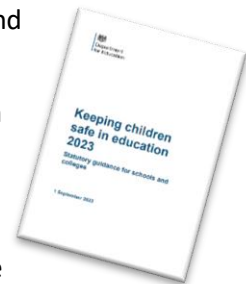
Strategic goal 2: To ensure the safety and well-being of all our school community

In this area of our work as governors we look at a range of areas, such as **attendance**, how we meet our statutory requirements for **safeguarding** and the results of any **survey feedback** from staff, pupils and parents in relation to safety and well-being.

School attendance is a national priority as attendance nationally has not returned to pre-Covid levels. We are very pleased that attendance overall at Whitehall is at the national average and that persistent absence (pupils with attendance of 80% or less) is below the national average by 2%.

Attendance at school is one of the key factors affecting success at school and the governors would like to thank families for ensuring that their children attend school regularly.

Safeguarding: At every governing board meeting we receive a report on safeguarding and at the end of the year an Annual Report outlining the roles and responsibilities, staff training and numbers of cases in relation to safeguarding. A key area of development that has taken place this year is the upgrading of filtering and monitoring systems on the internet to improve online safety. As Safeguarding Governors, myself and Sally Davies, also visit the school to discuss the school's approach to safeguarding.



Survey feedback: Pupils in Year 4 and Year 6 took part in the Health-Related Behaviour survey this year. This is a survey available for all schools nationally and provides a wealth of feedback from pupils about aspects of their lives that can affect their health. We will look at the results, which have just been published, in more detail next year.

Angela Doherty, Chair of governors

Strategic goal 3: To use our resources effectively to meet our goals



At the full governing board meeting in May 2024 the three-year budget was approved.

Due to the hard work of the finance team over the past year, our strategic goal 'To achieve a three-year balanced budget projection' was met with a slight increase in the surplus balance. This is a great achievement as many schools are facing significant financial challenges. The Resources' Committee has several members with a professional background in finance who always provide a strong level of challenge to the school. We are also fortunate with our School Business Manager, Mrs Tudorescu, whose thorough approach and attention to detail ensures that she will always secure best value for the school.

Areas of work included in the budget setting include agreeing an approach to forecasting pay rises and pupil numbers. The school is committed to improving the school infrastructure, whilst recognising the importance of continuing to actively resource learning. A key piece of infrastructure work that will take place over the summer is replacing areas of the roof that have begun to leak during the very wet weather.

Kieran Bassan, Chair of Resources Committee



Wishing you and your families a safe and a wonderful summer holiday!

