

Governors' Newsletter

Summer Term 2026



Happiness at the heart of learning

Dear Parents and carers,

Writing the final newsletter of the year to share some of our work as governors over the Summer Term, is slightly different this year as it will be the last as Whitehall Junior School. During the Autumn Term we learned that Mrs Bringan, Headteacher at Whitehall Infant School, had decided to retire after twenty wonderful years of service to the school. The amalgamation consultation process that followed was completed with Cabinet approval on 23 April 2026 which signalled the creation of our new school, to be known as Whitehall School from September 2026.

Behind the scenes there has been a huge amount of work taking place led by Mrs Moloi, along with members of the leadership teams from both schools. As governors, we have also re-organised and created a new board with members from both boards. In this newsletter, we thank the governors who will not be continuing next year, as well as reporting on our other activities and school visits this term. Overall, I would say there is a great feeling of excitement and anticipation as we get ready to build on the best of both schools as Whitehall School next year.

Wishing you all a safe and restful summer break.

Angela Doherty, Chair of governors

Many thanks to the governors who are leaving the board

On behalf of the governors, I would like to say a huge thank you to **Jen Bull, LA governor; Manish Lath, co-opted governor and Mr Jones, staff governor** who will be leaving the board this summer.



Jen, who has been a member of the board since 2022 brought a wealth of experience from working in the data and statistics department in local authorities. Her in-depth knowledge of systems that affect schools, such as free school meal funding, or the intricacies of the school census data, have been invaluable to the board.



Manish who also joined us in 2022 has been a valuable member of the Resources' Committee. Manish whose background is in strategic leadership and consultancy, has always commented on how impressed he is with the way the school is run. Manish took a keen interest in the projects to improve the infrastructure of the school and took part in a number of health and safety walks as part of that role.



Mr Jones, our staff governor who joined the board in 2023, writes:
' I thoroughly enjoyed my time as a Staff Governor at Whitehall Junior School as it gave me the opportunity to contribute to the wider development of the school community. I valued working alongside senior leaders and fellow governors to support decisions that benefited both pupils and staff. The experience was rewarding and strengthened my understanding of school leadership, teamwork and governance. '



Catching up with Art

I was very pleased to be able to catch up with Mx Spacey-Mageean this term to see some of the wonderful work produced by the children and to hear about developments in the teaching of art at the school.

I think this art work, all produced by Year 3, speaks for itself, demonstrating the strength of development of technical skills and techniques and the creativity of the pupils.



Children have also visited galleries during the year and staff have taken part in a CPD session to look at art planning which they all found very useful.

Angela Doherty, co-opted governor

All round sports!



During this term I have been fortunate to attend a number of sporting events with my son and other pupils and parents from the school.

Cross country

On 16 April 2026, the school's team of 15 runners delivered an excellent performance in the 2000m race. Although conditions were favourable, the course included a challenging steep incline. The children demonstrated fantastic resilience, determination and teamwork throughout the cross-country event, encouraging one another every step of the way. A huge thank you to the amazing children and staff, as well as to our supportive parents, whose enthusiastic encouragement helped spur Team Whitehall on.



Swimming Gala

On 30 April 2026, a team of nine swimmers took part in the District Swimming Gala and delivered an outstanding performance. The children competed brilliantly across a range of events, including the individual Freestyle, Breaststroke and Backstroke races, as well as the Girls' Freestyle Relay, Boys' Freestyle Relay and Medley Relay. Their hard work and determination resulted in an impressive medal haul of three golds, one silver and two bronze medals. The school was also the proud winner of the 'Individual Events' trophy and achieved second place in the 'Relay Events'. To top off an excellent evening, we shared the 'Overall' swimming trophy this year with Hermitage.



District Rounders Tournament

On Thursday 2 July, Whitehall took a team of ten pupils to the District Rounders Tournament at Ryefield School, competing against ten other schools. The team secured one win during the group stage and, although they did not progress to the knockout rounds, they demonstrated excellent teamwork, resilience and sportsmanship throughout the competition. It was pleasing to see their confidence and fielding skills develop with each match. The pupils represented Whitehall with pride, and it was wonderful to see them supported and encouraged by both their teachers and families throughout the event.

Karen Rouse, co-opted governor

Summer Fair



Matthew, Sally and I had a fun afternoon at the Whitehall Junior School Summer Fair! Fortunately, it was a lovely sunny day without the extreme temperatures that we have experienced this summer. As always pupils and staff in every year group had been working hard decorating their stalls, making products for sale or setting up their fun challenges. Many were also helping out on the day along with Mrs Moloi and Miss Costa on the uniform stall and Mrs Upfield, whose airport style queuing system, helped the ever-popular bottle tombola run even more smoothly this year! Burgers and popcorn proved popular despite the heat, although the longest queue may have been for the ice-cream van! All the money raised will be used to buy new equipment for the school.



Y6 cake sale



Guess who?



How many sweets?



Uniform sale



Sally Davies, Angela Doherty, Matthew Ralph – co-opted governors

Pirates of the Curry Bean!

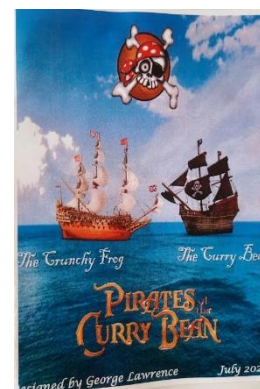
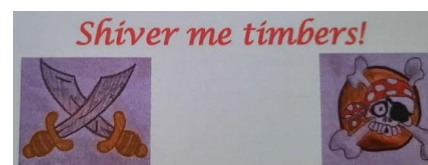


Year 6 put on a wonderful performance of 'Pirates of the Curry Bean!' this year. The cast looked spectacular in their professional quality costumes and the individual and group singing was delightful. All the additional time spent on singing practice in school has definitely paid off.

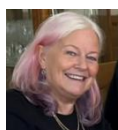


Everyone spoke their lines clearly and with great characterisation, with many of the jokes hitting the spot with the audience! As always, the group dances were thoroughly enjoyed and full of fun.

Thank you to everyone for their flexibility in preparing and putting on the show, as again the sweltering weather intervened and disrupted the original schedule.



Wishing all of Year 6 the very best for the future as they move to their new schools in September!



Jane Guest, Angela Doherty – co-opted governors



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