



Westfield Primary School
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Governors Newsletter

Dear Parents

Welcome to your Governors' newsletter. It has been almost a year since I last wrote to you so I hope this letter brings you fully up to date on all the Governing Body has been doing during this time.

Members

We welcome Catherine Potts as our staff governor and Jayne Olpin as a co-opted governor. The Governing Body currently has 11 members, with one parent governor vacancy. Governors are recruited on a skills base. Should anyone be interested in joining the governing body and feel they have skills that fit the Governing Body's requirements and would like some further information then please do not hesitate to contact me via the school office.

STANDARDS

The Standards committee has met regularly over the past year and continued to challenge in the standards for the core subjects of Maths and English. Writing is a school focus, from our last Ofsted inspection. We constantly review the School's Learning Improvement Plan. We look at particular groups of children and year groups and ensure the correct level of support and interventions are implemented where required. These are monitored and reviewed and evaluated for their effectiveness and impact. SEN is a fixed agenda item, and the English, Maths and EYFS subject leaders report regularly to this committee. Westfield remains committed to raising pupil achievement and that pupil attainment continues to improve across the school.

BUSINESS

The Business committee meet 4 times per year. Areas covered at Business include:

- Setting and controlling the school's budget.
- School staffing and key staffing policies
- Premises including Health and Safety

Funding

Income for schools is primarily set based on the number of pupils on role in October, plus Pupil Premium Grant. In October 2015 we had 357 pupils on role compared to 331 pupils the previous year. This meant the school received more funding to operate the school for 2016/2017. Together with some supporting carry forward funds the decision was taken to use this additional funding to increase the number of classes next year by two. This means there will be 2 classes for each year group throughout the school next year. Pupil numbers have continued to increase so it is hoped that we will be able to sustain 14 classes in future years **but there is no guarantee.**

Payments

It is planned from Sept the school will operate an online payments system, ParentPay, which we hope will make things much easier for the majority of our parents. For those who don't want to use this payment method the office will still accept cash and cheque payments.

Staff Changes

The Governors have assisted in staff recruitment and are happy to announce that Josie Ross, Carol Kendall, Rebecca Pearce and Megan Harris will all be with us again next year together with Lucy Harding who returns from maternity leave. We welcome Janaka Mudalige as our new site manager from May, and Emma Watkins as a part time teacher from Sept to the team.

WELFARE

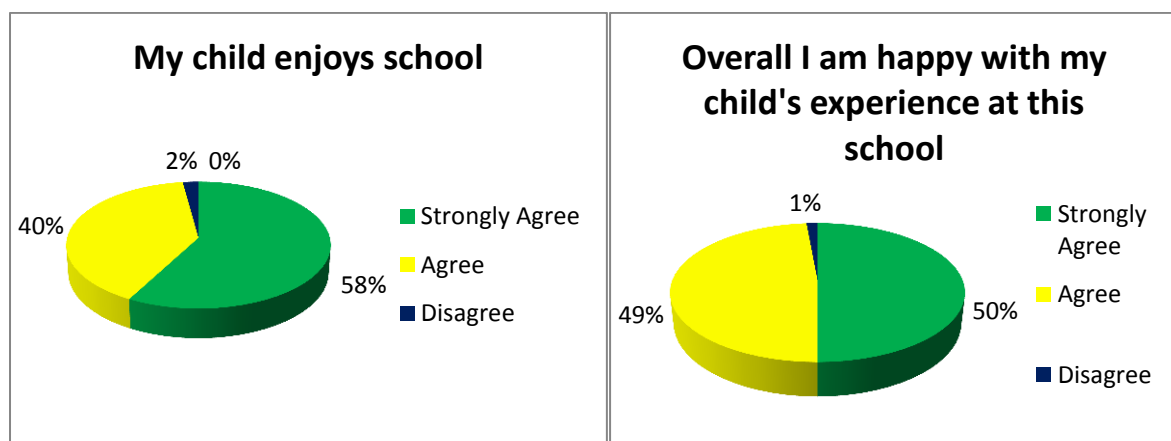
The Welfare committee meet twice per year. Tracey Young has taken over the role of Welfare Chair.

Nursery

In September we will be opening the school's nursery, under the leadership of Mr Mills. We are delighted to announce that we have appointed Tammy Davies (current teacher in Badger Class) as the Nursery Lead Practitioner. Tammy will manage the nursery and work closely with our Early Years Team. Staff and Governors are working hard to ensure everything is in place for September and there will be an opportunity to hear more about the nursery in the near future. Should anyone be interested in placing their child in the nursery then please register your interest at the school office.

Parent Questionnaires

At the last parent's evening, governors handed out parent question forms. It is important that governors seek parent's views. Almost 200 parents completed the forms and the results, as shown below were very encouraging. Many parents wrote some very positive comments about what we are doing well as a school.



Below is a list of some further work we have been doing since the last newsletter

- Bi-Annual review of the Senior Leadership Team and review action plans.
- Weekly meetings between Head and Chair
- Governors involved in the recruitment of all new teaching staff.
- Parental Questionnaires
- Continue to attend school events such as sports day, parent's evenings, assemblies, and performances and having an increased visibility within school.
- Attended external training courses
- Met with staff
- Visit other schools

What Next?

The Governing Body will continue to support and challenge Mr Mills and other staff members to ensure all children receive the highest level of education. The school has welcomed many new pupils during the past year, which is a reflection on the growing popularity of the school and how hard all staff have worked to continuing the improvements. The coming year is very exciting, expanding to 14 classes and a new nursery which will keep us all very busy.

Review of School Year

As you would expect, lots of events have happened over the past year, involving the children, staff and parents! Here are a collection of photos to remind us of just a few!



Surprise Helicopter Landing



Bath Music Festival



Bath Schools Cycling Competition



Home Reading Raffle Winners

"Learning for Life"



National Finals – Formula 1 Project



Indoor Athletics



Dance Umbrella



Warburtons



Cross Country



Sport Relief



National Book Day

“Learning for Life”



Book Character Day



Kind Regards

Julie Probert
Chair of Governors



“Learning for Life”

