



Trumps Green Infant School

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our first governor newsletter. The governing body feel it is important to maintain and strengthen links with the school community. We are introducing this termly newsletter as a way for you to understand how the governing body works with the school to maintain and improve standards. As you may know the governing body is not involved in day-to-day procedures, but is required to ensure clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction for the school. We were pleased that the recent OFSTED inspection graded the school as good and that they recognised the expertise and hard work of Trumps Green staff.

Besides our formal meetings twice a term we also meet regularly with staff and pupils to deepen our understanding of teaching and learning. Each governor has chosen particular areas of the curriculum to focus on. We began this term by meeting with curriculum leaders in order to broaden our knowledge of how that subject is taught and the action plan for development.

In November we had our first governor visit of the year, with a focus on Maths. The subject leader Mrs Bond gave us an overview of how maths is planned for and assessed and we were then invited to visit the classrooms to observe the learning and talk to the children. It was a pleasure to see the children so engaged and enthusiastic about their learning, and to hear them talk confidently about their maths skills.

In Year R the children were learning about "the sixness of six". In the outside area, for example, a group of children were focused on collecting six objects in their baskets, whilst in the classroom the teacher worked with a focus group on recognising six of an item on a dominoes card.

In Year 1 the children were learning how to subtract using a number line. The children showed us how to use a new tool in their books, a flip up number line to help with correct number formation.

In Year 2 the children were using mathematical symbols $<$, $>$ and $=$ to write number sentences. It was enlightening to see in action how teachers adapt their planning to meet the needs of different pupils, ensuring the right level of challenge and engagement.

These visits are a valuable tool in helping us to broaden our knowledge of teaching and learning at Trumps Green, and underpin our vision and understanding of the strategic direction for the school. We would like to thank the staff and children for making us so welcome.

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Governor Profile Chair

Rosemary Hucker – Chair

Although I have been a governor here at Trumps Green for nearly a year now, I have been a governor in Surrey since 2007, and previously in a special school in Hampshire. In those 15 years I have worked in junior, infant, primary, nursery and Alternative Provision schools across Surrey and have gained a wealth of knowledge in the ever changing and challenging world of education.

My professional background was in catering, both in the Public and Private sectors, across the counties of Hampshire, Kent, Cornwall, Gloucestershire and the London Boroughs to name but a few. I have also been a NVQ assessor and have helped many catering staff to gain a qualification, for some, who never thought they would achieve one since leaving school.

The primary role of Chair is to oversee the workings of the Governing Board in holding the school to account. It is very much a strategic role rather than an operational one. I am very pleased to be working with my fellow governors who are very dedicated and passionate about the school and its future in the community.

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Governor profile Vice chair

Dr Maggie Appleyard – Vice Chair

I am pleased to have been involved as a governor with Trumps Green Infant School since 2006. When my son was in the Reception class I was elected as a Parent Governor and also helped out as a parent volunteer listening to the children reading, helping with craft activities and with school trips. This was such a rewarding experience that I have stayed on the Governing Body ever since, firstly as a Co-opted Governor and now currently as a Local Authority Governor appointed by Surrey County Council. During this time, many past pupils will know me as the 'Library Lady' as I ran the regular weekly sessions where they could choose their school library books to take home until these were curtailed by Covid restrictions.

Professionally, I have been involved in medical education for over thirty years, initially teaching Physiology and conducting research in Neuroscience at a London medical school and then as a medical writer working on medical educational programs for hospital physicians and GPs. Many of the skills obtained have been invaluable in my service as a school governor such as data interpretation and analysis for monitoring pupil attainment and progress, and budget setting and review for monitoring school finance.

Currently, I am the Vice-chair of Governors which involves acting as a back-up and sounding board for the Chair. Other roles include Nominated Governor for English which involves monitoring of the English curriculum, and Nominated Governor for Special Educational Needs (SEN) with regular meetings with the school's SEN Co-ordinator.

Yours sincerely,

The Governors

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