



# Trumps Green Infant School

## GOVERNORS' NEWSLETTER

Welcome to our Governor Newsletter for the Spring term.

This term we have met twice as a full governing body. The agenda for the first meeting had a focus on teaching and learning. This is primarily achieved through the headteachers report. The report covers school data, safeguarding, health and safety, training and assessment.

Reading the report and discussing it with Miss Morris allows the governors to gain a greater depth of understanding about how the school is progressing, and learn about any significant changes.

The second meeting was to discuss finance. School governors have a statutory responsibility to oversee the financial performance of their school. We review the budget, including both the current year and the long term plans.

Our governor visit in February was to learn more about how PSHE is taught within the school. The theme across the school for this term is "Being Healthy". Each week the children learn about different aspects of having both a healthy body, and a healthy mind. So besides healthy eating and exercise they also learn about the importance of understanding their emotions.

In Year R the children shared their ideas about keeping healthy through exercise. They enjoyed miming different activities, and sharing with their peers their favourite types of sport. These ranged from cycling and cricket, through to karate and gymnastics.

Generally, in PSHE lessons the children have opportunities to share their thoughts through a circle time activity. This is intended to be an open space, where children are able to share their thoughts without judgement. They learn the rules of circle time, such as "we have a right to pass" and "we listen to others". In Year 1 the children used their circle time to recall what they had already learnt, for example happy breathing, and to share their ideas on how being happy contributes to a healthy body.

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In Year 2 the children looked at a range of photographs in order to better understand how people might express their emotions. They discussed how feeling calm might help us to be a better learner, and how to calm our minds with relaxation techniques.

In all areas we noted the enthusiasm and engagement of the children. They showed a depth of understanding and an empathy in terms of emotional issues. They showed that they felt secure in offering opinions and were respectful towards each other. Thanks to the children and staff for making us feel welcome in school.

In this Governor Newsletter we are going to hear from our two parent Governors Louise Forshew and Fran Pollard about the role of a parent governor and also hear a little about them and why They took on this role.

## ***What is the role of a Parent Governor?***

Our role as a parent and governor is no different to that of the other governors. Governors are responsible for overseeing the strategic leadership side of a school: strategy, policy, budgeting and staffing. We attend governing body meetings where we discuss issues such as setting the school vision, finances and scrutinising educational outcomes. We are also involved in the school community, supporting and challenging the headteacher and senior leaders. Being a parent governor involves achieving a delicate balance of roles and we'll touch on that later in this newsletter!

## ***Why did you decide to give up your time voluntarily to do this role?***

We know that we have a very privileged and responsible role. We got involved as being a governor is the opportunity to make a difference, not only for our children, but for all children attending now and in years to come. We also learn a lot ourselves and are developing our own skills as we go.

## ***What experience do you bring to the role from your own professional lives?***

First and foremost, we are parents ourselves with children currently at our school. From our professional lives we bring a wide range of skills and experience. This includes working directly with children and young people, managing human resources, managing complex and significant budgets and leading large organisation strategy and development. We are volunteering our time as we know that schools can really benefit from our backgrounds in the corporate and charitable sectors.

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## ***What sort of difficulties might you face as a Parent Governor?***

Being a parent governor isn't easy and it's important that we work together as a team with the rest of the governors. We aren't on the governing body to express the views of parents or to get involved in any day-to-day operational matters (that's the role of school leaders!) It is critical that we respect confidentiality at all times and try to be as objective as we can. Being a governor is a real privilege and we completely respect that opportunity to make a difference



Fran Pollard



Louise Forshew

We still have vacancies for governors, if you are interested in joining the governing body you could visit the Inspiring Governance website, or message us via the school office.

<https://www.inspiringgovernance.org>

Yours sincerely,  
The Governors

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