



## Governor's Summer Newsletter

Well done! We have made it to the end of our first full year of schooling since Covid started and it has been great for Governors to be back in school and to be able to see the children develop and flourish. It continues to be a real privilege for us to be part of the outstanding community at The Gattons.

Here is an update on what the Governing Board have been up to this term to support the school.

### Chair's update - How do governors monitor the school?



Lucas Cook  
Chair of Governors

A key role for governors is to monitor what the school is doing in order to see how the school is progressing against the School Improvement Plan. We do this in several ways, such as:

- Visiting the school to talk to staff and pupils about the curriculum and other key areas, observe lessons and look at the school environment.
- Looking at school data, such as phonics and key stage 1 results.
- Speaking with senior leaders and the school's Link Adviser.
- Listening to views from parents and carers via surveys and at events.

Hopefully you have seen the recent email asking you to complete [the Parent and Carers survey](#). We would strongly encourage you to complete the survey as it's a great way for governors and school staff to find out more about where you feel the school is doing well and to identify areas for improvement. Governors review the survey responses at our meetings and use them to inform the School Improvement Plan.

### What have we been involved in this term?

- All Governors have monitored their curriculum areas this term talking to subject leaders as well as the children - we have been really impressed with the knowledge and vocabulary they have retained during the year.
- We visited the new Reception playground during our Full Governing Body meeting and were very impressed with the new layout and equipment.
- Lucas has been involved in two local authority visits looking at the progress we have made this year with behaviour and the curriculum.
- We have been recruiting to fill our Co-opted Governor vacancy and hope to have a new governor starting in September.
- Governors have attended training in the areas of getting started as a governor, school finances and Headteacher performance review.
- We have enjoyed coming to Sports Day, the mini marathon and helping out at the Summer Fayre!

## Governor changes

**Goodbye!** After almost 9 years as a governor at The Gattons our longest serving governor, Julie



Julie Voce  
Co-opted Governor

Voce, is stepping down from the role as her youngest son moves up to Southway. Julie started as a Parent Governor back in November 2013, shortly after her eldest started in Reception. During her time at the Gattons, Julie has served as our Link Training Governor, Chair of Community Links Committee, Vice-Chair and Chair of Governors. She has also been the subject lead for Maths and Computing. We would like to wish her well in her future endeavours and to thank her for the time and commitment she has given to the Gattons and the Governing Board.

**New Vice-Chair:** Alison Palmer has now taken on the role of Vice-Chair. Thank you to Emma Sainsbury for her contributions to the Vice-Chair role over the past couple of years. Emma will be remaining on the governing body, so we won't be losing her wealth of expertise and experience.

## Staff goodbyes

This year we have three goodbyes:

- Mrs Speer who has been a PPA teacher and supply with us for more than 10 years.
- Miss McIlvenny who has been an LSA and HLTA for 11 years and
- Mrs West who has been an LSA this year.

We would like to thank all of them for their hard work and commitment to the school. We wish them well in the future.

## Thank you!

Finally, we wanted to take the opportunity to send a big thank you to:

- our senior leaders, Sarah and Ellie, for your excellent leadership over the past year,
- our staff for working so hard to support the children and each other,
- Friends of The Gattons School (FOGS) for another excellent year of fundraising,
- parents and carers for your support during the year,
- and the children for being so enthusiastic and hard working all year!

We would like to wish our Year 2 children every success as they start their new learning adventure at Southway. We are also really excited to welcome our new Reception children and look forward to meeting all the new members of our school community.

All that remains is for us to wish you a wonderful summer break and we look forward to seeing you in September.

From all the Governors at The Gattons.

Lucas (Chair), Alison (Vice-Chair), Anthony, David, Derek, Ellie, Emma S  
Julie S, Julie V, Paula, Rosie, Sarah and Emma W (Clerk to Governors).