

Governors' Spring Newsletter 2023

Congratulations on reaching the end of term and we are sure you are all looking forward to a nice break over Easter. Here is an update on what the Governing Board have been up to during the Spring term.

Update on Governing Board

We are delighted to welcome Rev Jules Middleton to the governing board as an associate governor. Jules will be sitting on the community links committee. Jules is the vicar at St Edwards church on Royal George Road, just a short walk from the Gattons. Her skills, experience and knowledge of the local community will add real value to the governing board and we look forward to working with her.

At our Full Governing Board meeting in March, we re-elected Derek Hayes to the Board for a further 4-year term. Derek is our Local authority governor and is our link for early years. We are delighted Derek will be with us for another term as our Local Authority Governor so we can continue to benefit from his wide experience across a variety of local government education issues. Derek challenges us to think creatively while continuing to hold the needs of our pupils at the heart of planning - we are delighted he will be with us for another term!

Fundraising update

A huge thank you to The Friends of The Gattons School (FoGS) who have been busy fundraising this term. They have recently donated £7500 which we are going to use in the refurbishment of our pond area. We really appreciate the time and effort that FoGS put into their fundraising activities and would like to thank everyone who has donated.

Positive visits from the West Sussex Link Advisors

Governors have also been involved in several visits from West Sussex Advisors this term. We have had a progress review meeting which looks at the progress we have made from our Ofsted inspection in 2021, as well as visits to Reception and Year 1 looking at the curriculum and the children's learning. All of these visits were hugely positive and we would like to thank the staff for their hard work. We have also had a safeguarding audit, which again showed strengths across the school in everything we do to safeguard the children.

What else have we been involved in this term?

A key part of our role is monitoring everything that is going on in school and so we have continued to keep in touch with subject leaders to review progress on the plans they shared with us in the Autumn term.

We have been working with the Senior Leadership Team on the development of the School Improvement Plan and have continued with our three-year strategic plan that we set last year. We have also been reviewing a number of the schools' policies to ensure that they are up to date. All of our policies can be found on The Gattons website.

We would like to wish you all a restful Easter break and we look forward to seeing everyone in the Summer Term.

From all the Governors at The Gattons. Lucas (Chair), Alison (Vice-Chair), Emma , Anthony, David, Derek, Ellie, Julie S, Paula, Rosie , Leila ,Jules and Sarah.