

## Hello & Welcome

Welcome to our first governors newsletter. It is an aim of the schools governing body to improve communication links between governors, staff, parents/carers and children, hopefully the termly newsletter will help with this.

Through the newsletter we plan to share with you who the governors are, what our role is and how you can help.

## What is the role of a governor?

Governors are a group of volunteers who include parents, staff and members of our local community. Our role is sometimes described as a critical friend. This does not mean that we are here to criticise the head or the school instead we try and ask useful questions to gain a greater understanding of the school and to foster an ethos of continuous improvement. We are here to support the school in any way we can to make the school a place where the children can flourish.

## Who we are?

Each Termly newsletter we will introduce you to one of the governors, and explain a little about their role and have a picture so that you will be able to recognise them when at school.

First introduction is Stewart Armstrong who is a co-opted governor.

After graduating from Manchester University with a degree in Mathematics I worked in the IT industry. I spent the last 10 years of my career at Cambridge Assessment (a department of Cambridge University). In particular I worked for Cambridge International Examinations and designed the IT system to support the introduction of examinations equivalent to KS2 and KS4 in Bahrain. My late wife and I both experienced the benefits of a good education. We had working class backgrounds and were the first to go to university in our families. This is where my passion for education comes from. I have been a governor for 10 years at Warren and have enjoyed being part of the schools journey to become the fantastic place it is today.



## What we have been discussing?

During our meetings it is a chance to discuss all aspects of school. A few of the things that we have been discussing this spring term.

- Key local issues, including safety in our local community and around school.
- Changes to the Ofsted framework, gaining an understanding of the new framework and how it affects school.
- Curriculum development - the hard work of staff has been recognised as they continue to develop a rich and inspiring curriculum that enables the pupils to have limitless opportunities.
- Building and premises - this has included improvements to the school site. The whole school environment has changed, with new inspiring displays in classrooms and corridors. Reading nooks and calm corners, soft lighting have all enhanced the environment school looks amazing and if you haven't had a chance to see then please ask your class teacher.
- Governors communication with parents – we have discussed how you can get to know us and our role. Hopefully the newsletter will help but we will also be attending events in school when we can.
- Governors skills audit - we strive to be the best we can be and we complete an audit of our skills so that we can identify strengths and training needs but also to recognise skills that we have that can be used to support school further..
- Reading - this is a huge strength of Warren and we have seen how books are being used in the curriculum but also how reading for pleasure is a big part of the Warren ethos.
- Diversity - it is a real success of Warren that all cultures are celebrated and embedded in the curriculum but also in the environment. Displays, celebrations, different lunch menus and visits from people in our community mean that our children are learning about different cultures every day.
- Enrichment - we are amazed at all the opportunities that pupils have at Warren and the ethos of limitless opportunities can be clearly seen.

When walking around school as governors we are so proud of the place that Warren is becoming and the journey that it is on to become outstanding.



### A huge thank you to Ms Smale!

Warren's midday supervisor, Ms Smale, is retiring after working at school for 25 years. We would like to thank her for all her hard work and dedication over the years.

We hope you enjoy your retirement but don't forget to visit us, you will always be part of Warren's community.

THANK  
YOU

### Complaints

We hope that you should never have a need for this, however issues inevitably arise from time to time. Our complaints policy can be found on the school website.

Complaints are best dealt with first by the class teacher and then the school leadership team and only very rarely would governors need to become involved.

It is important that if there is a concern the class teacher and school staff are given the opportunity to work with you to resolve problems.

The policy explains the correct procedure to follow if there is a concern or complaint and helps to ensure fairness and transparency to all parties.

### Getting Ofsted ready

We are not anticipating an Ofsted for another couple of years but the work continues behind the scenes to make Warren the best school it can be. This includes adapting the curriculum, policies and the environment to allow our children to develop as an all round learner and individual.

Another area that Ofsted will look at is the schools attendance data. Although data is very important, it is more important that children are attending school and reaching their 96% target so that they do not miss any learning. They also should not be missing out on all the other benefits that attending school brings.

School are here to support in any way to help children attend at every possible opportunity. Please don't hesitate to contact school and together we can provide a positive learning experience for all.

### Thank you

As we only have a few weeks left before the end of term, we would like to say thank you to all the parents and carers for their continued support. It is important to us that as parents/carers you feel welcome and apart of the school community. A good relationship between school and home will help our children continue to thrive.

It is also important that we recognise how fortunate we are to have such a committed team of staff who are always seeking the best for the children. Thank you to all the staff for your hard work and dedication.

We hope this newsletter has given you an insight into our role. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Thank you and Happy Easter when it arrives,

The governors of Warren Primary Academy.

