



Governor Newsletter Summer 2022

We have come to the end of another very challenging school year. We would like, once again, to thank all the staff at Westfield Primary School and Nursery who have continued to work so hard to drive the school forward, despite all the issues and uncertainty that COVID-19 has thrown at us.



As a Board, we are delighted that this year many of the rich experiences have returned, such as school trips and residentials, alongside a full and varied curriculum. We are aware that parents have missed the opportunity to be as involved as they would like during the pandemic, however we are very happy to see the Westfield community coming together again this half term, especially for the wonderful Jubilee celebrations. The Governors have continued to work remotely throughout the pandemic, however we look forward being back in school to introduce ourselves at the Meet the Teacher event in September.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete this year's Parent Survey. Your feedback is important to us and helps us to identify how we can further improve what we offer your children. A breakdown of the results are attached with this newsletter for you to review. We are pleased the overall responses were so positive, however we do take every comment on board. Key themes highlighted in the survey will continue to be addressed, which has included additional Parent Forum discussions, (minutes are available on the school website.)

As governors, our role is to enable Westfield to run as effectively as possible and work alongside the senior leadership team to ensure the children gain the best educational experience they can. As a board, we meet regularly and have separate committees that focus on finance — making sure we set a balanced budget and spend the school's funds wisely — and the curriculum, providing support and challenge in both areas. We are also responsible for setting the strategic direction of the school, looking at ways we can develop and improve. Governors set policies and agree targets to help Westfield achieve our long-term objectives, ensuring they are robust and deliverable. These targets form the priorities outlined in the annual School Development Plan. Many governors have link roles, where they take time to focus on key areas of the school and curriculum in more depth, these include Safeguarding, Maths, English, and Special Educational Needs. Governors carry out school visits throughout the year to meet with the subject leaders to discuss updates, ask challenging questions, then feed back to the rest of the board.





We thoroughly enjoyed coming into school in April for our first Governor in School Day since the pandemic started. We had the opportunity to meet with the children, join in lessons and talk with the staff. Seeing the positive impact of the decisions made in our meetings is a highlight for us and a good reminder of why we are governors.

We currently have spaces on our Board. If you are interested in learning more about the role and potentially becoming a Governor at our school, please get in touch with us at governors@westfieldprimary.herts.sch.uk.

If it's not for you, we would appreciate it if you could spread the word to your local family, friends and neighbours. We would welcome applicants who are able to volunteer their time and energy, in particular those who are naturally inquisitive and have the ability to question and analyse, have good interpersonal skills and a willingness to learn. We believe a diverse governing board is a stronger board, so that decisions are made robustly with input from people with a variety of lived experiences, as well as varied skills. No prior knowledge of education is required and training is provided.

Our current governor biographies can be found [here](#). We will be happy to introduce ourselves and answer your questions on any aspects of being a governor.

We would like to wish everyone a happy and healthy summer break and wish all our leavers — pupils, parents and staff — the very best on the next stage of their journey.

