



UPLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Governors' Newsletter - Summer 2017

Governor Day—29th June

The Governing Board spent a day in school to reflect on our year as governors. We looked at what had gone well, what we could improve and how we can continue to drive the school towards outstanding. During our day we spent time questioning groups of children to find out what they like and don't like about school, we observed teaching across the school by sitting in on maths lessons and we were presented with an overview of the learning that takes place in the school across history, geography, science and PE. We had lunch with the children (the sausage rolls were delicious!) and we reflected on how well we perform as governors. One of the vital tasks we perform is 'link' roles. We each link to a particular area within the school i.e. Maths or Upper KS2. We meet termly with the subject or phase leader to scrutinise books and data and look at results, witnessing first hand the planning and learning that takes place within the classroom. We have agreed to share these reports with you and make them available on the school website as of the Autumn term 2018.

Chair of Governor's Message

I am now at the end of my second year as chair of governors and what an exciting two years it's been. However, I have taken the hard decision to step down from governance and take a break to focus on some other interests I have.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as a governor (9 years in total) and I know I shall miss it terribly. Your new chair of the governing board will be John Browning, an extremely experienced governor with a passion for all things 'Upland'. John has been an Upland governor for many years and his children attended Upland. His passion for driving the school forward is boundless - you are in very capable hands!

We also welcome two new governors, Jen Hyatt and Abi Shepherd (staff governor). Jen lives locally; her parents are both teachers and she strongly believes in supporting her local community—something she hopes to achieve through her role as a school governor. She has a wide breadth of skills that she brings to the role. Abi is our FSU leader and an outstanding practitioner who has taken over from Miss Smiles as staff governor.

One of our biggest tasks this year was to recruit a new Headteacher, and I think we can safely say we have found the right woman for the job! Beth McKenzie is an outstanding leader and will drive the school forward in achieving our aims and objectives without falter. Mrs Marsh remains at Upland and has been promoted to Executive Head Teacher of Unity Academy Trust.

We have recently received the good news that Gravel Hill Primary will be joining our trust in the Autumn term. Vicky Marsh will split her time between the two schools providing guidance and counsel to the senior leaders at both schools.

I want to thank all the staff for yet another terrific year—well done! I wish you well in the future.

I also want to thank parents and carers for continuing to support the school.

Have a happy and restful summer, Emma Johnson

Potential new governors

We took the opportunity, whilst in school, to invite parents into meet with current governors to ask us what it is like to be a school governor. We are currently looking for parents with finance, child development or business skills to complement our already outstanding board of skills. We were delighted to see some new faces and look forward to you returning your forms. If you have the skills we are looking for and would be interested in putting your name forward for consideration, please contact reception who can provide you with the necessary paperwork. Thank you.