



PARKGATE INFANTS GOVERNOR GOSSIP

AUTUMN 2016

Parkgate Infants and Nursery School
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Welcome to the Parkgate Infants and Nursery School Governors' newsletter.

It is an aim of our school's governing body to improve communication and links between governors, staff, parents and children. Hopefully this newsletter will meet part of this aim.

Governor Spotlight: *Philip Reilly, Co-Opted Governor*
I have been a co-opted Governor since March 2014 and recently took over as Vice Chair of the Governors as well as the Chair of the Resources Committee responsible for strategic, personnel related issues and approving the school's annual budget.

I was previously a Governor at the YMCA in Central Watford for 5 years, focusing on health and wellbeing matters. I work for HMRC in Central London dealing with large companies' tax affairs and my interests include reading, cinema, theatre, politics, keeping fit and watching Watford Football Club.

School works over the summer:

Over the summer holidays, and during this term, a number of school improvements were made:

- * The scooter/bike racks, which have often been requested by parents, are proving to be well used.
- * The new security gates, with a few teething problems, have also been fully installed now and will help to keep the children safer.
- * The internal spaces of the school were all painted and the classrooms look much brighter now.
- * The fencing off of the orchard has been completed, including a gate and a zebra crossing. This will allow better use of this space, as an external classroom or play space. Have you seen the outside classroom being constructed?

In addition to the weekly newsletter and playground information board the school website includes information about school term dates and special events. The website text can be translated, via google translate, into over 100 languages.

Who we are ...

The School Governors are a group of volunteers who include parents, staff and members of our local community. Our main role is to promote and sustain improvements in standards throughout the school. We help Miss Lawrence, Mr Pritchard and the staff to plan the school's long-term direction and we evaluate progress.

Four of us are parents and can often be seen on the school run. Please feel free to stop any one of us if you have any questions about the school. If we don't know the answer there and then, we'll help you find out. You may also write to us. Just hand your letter in to the office and they will forward it.

Parent Governors:

Mr Paul Burke – Chair, Facilities Manager and parent of Betsy in Year 1.

Mrs Beth Dyson – Museum/Education Researcher and parent of Jacob in Year 1.

Mrs Jenny Pattinson – Inspection Manager and parent of Jake in Year 1.

Mrs Anila Makhani – Parent of Sarah in Year 1 and Rebecca in Reception.

Staff Governors:

Miss Ann Lawrence – Headteacher.

Mr Gwyn Pritchard – Deputy Headteacher.

Co-Opted Governors:

Mr Philip Reilly – Works for HMRC.

Mrs Yvonne Mynett – Solicitor.

Miss Suzannah Pearce – Solicitor.

In addition to the governors listed, our meetings are minuted by our clerks, Michael Tuck and Gemma Ryan.

We would like to welcome two new Governors to the board - our new Parent Governor, Mrs Anila Ayaz Makhani, and a new Co-opted Governor, Miss Suzannah Pearce.

The Board of Governors would like to wish all the children, families and staff of Parkgate Infants and Nursery School a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.