



Parkgate Infants and Nursery School

Governors' Newsletter

SPRING 2021



Wellbeing Award

We were delighted to hear that the school was awarded the Herts for Learning Wellbeing Award for Schools in Autumn 2020.

Dear Parents

On behalf of the Governing Body, I would like to thank you for all your efforts to support the remote learning being provided by the school during this lockdown. 'Working together' within the community is a key part of the school's vision. We know that it isn't always easy, but we are proud of the way the whole community continues to rise to the challenges of the pandemic, and would like to thank all the children for their resilience, staff for their commitment, parents for their patience, and everyone for their hard work and for sticking with the necessary Covid restrictions that help to keep us all safe.

With the announcement on Monday 15th February that all schools should reopen fully on Monday 8th March, attention turns to preparation for welcoming all pupils and families back to Parkgate. I know the staff cannot wait to see you all again.

With all best wishes to everyone at Parkgate Infants and Nursery,

Beth Dyson
Chair of Governors

Remote Learning Provision

In the Autumn term, the school vision was reviewed and updated. During the time of remote learning, staff and governors of the school remain committed to the three core elements of excellent teaching, working together, and inclusive practice. As Governors, we have heard about adaptations being made to the remote learning systems, such as the switch to using Seesaw throughout the school, and the introduction of live conferencing sessions. We are confident that the school will continue to adapt and improve their provision where necessary.

Pupil Premium

The Pupil Premium grant is funding provided by the government to help disadvantaged pupils improve the progress they make at school. It allows the school to target spending and resources, providing better support to pupils.

Over the past year, family circumstances may have changed, and some families who were previously not eligible for Pupil Premium may now be able to claim it.

If you think that this might apply to you, please contact the School office in confidence, and they will be able to help: admin@parkgateinfants.herts.sch.uk

What do Governors do....

The Governing Body is a group of volunteers who work together with Parkgate Infants to promote and sustain improvements in standards throughout the school.

We are not involved in the day to day running of the school, but provide strategic management, act as a 'critical friend' to support the Head Teacher and other senior staff, and are responsible for the vision, ethos and strategic direction of the School.

For more information, visit our Governors page on the school website: <https://parkgateinfants.herts.sch.uk/our-school/governors/governors-overview/>



Parkgate Infants and Nursery School

“Anything is Possible”

Parkgate Infants and Nursery School currently has a vacancy for one Parent Governor to join our Governing Body. Being a school governor is a fantastic and rewarding opportunity to have a positive impact on the education of hundreds of children, working towards better schools and a better community.

The Governing Body is a group of committed volunteers who work together to promote and sustain improvements in standards throughout the school. We are not involved in the day to day running of the school, but provide strategic management, and act as a ‘critical friend’ to support the Head Teacher and other senior staff. Although our work is being conducted virtually at the moment, and we miss being able to visit the school, our role remains important.

We meet once every half term (virtually of course, at the moment, although we hope to be back in school soon!) and there are occasional other meetings. You will have the opportunity to develop a wealth of transferable skills and experience. Governors’ term last for four years. Training is provided, and you will find yourself part of a supportive team.

We are seeking individuals with skills in the following areas:

- *Human Resources*
- *Strategic planning*

This is not an exhaustive list, and if your skills and expertise lie elsewhere, we would still love to hear from you. So, if you have the time, energy and commitment to be a school governor, and are interested in finding out more, please get in touch through the following email address, and the Chair will be happy to contact you for a chat:

infant.governors@parkgateinfants.herts.sch.uk

If you would like to nominate yourself for the role of Parent Governor, please complete the application form sent out with this newsletter, and return to the school office (admin@parkgateinfants.herts.sch.uk). Please contact the school office if you would like a paper copy of the application form, which will be available after 8th March. Self-nominations need to be seconded by another parent/carer at the school. You will need to provide an 80-word biography. **Deadline for applications is 3pm on Friday 19th March.**

Depending on the number of applications for the Parent Governor position, the school may be required hold a Parent Vote.

Further information about being a governor can also be found on the following websites:

<https://governorsforschools.org.uk/>

<https://www.hertsforlearning.co.uk/business-services/governance>

We are committed to safeguarding, and all governors must have a DBS check and provide two references.