

## Meet the Governors

**Chair:** Jane Erving

**Vice-Chair:** Lauren Fitzjohn

**Parent Governors:** Nikki Stark, Kashan Pervaiz, Jessica Gane, Jim Gordon

**Co-Opted Governors:** Andrew Hiscock, Richard Hoyle, Clare Spiller, Cariad Comfort, Sarah Badham

**Staff:** Laura Galley

**Head Teacher:** Gary Tucker

**Clerk:** Lesley Lodge



Woodmancote School  
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## WOODMANCOTE SCHOOL | Governor Newsletter – 2023

| MARCH 2023 |

### Governing Body Update

Welcome to the first governing body newsletter. We want to use these as a platform to let you know what we have been up to as a governing body and keep you informed of some of the issues facing our school.

The governing body is recruiting! So, if you are passionate about education, supporting your local community, and ensuring that all children have a positive start in life and schooling, please get in touch with our chair Jane: [chair@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:chair@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk)



#### Role of a Governor

The role of a school governor is to contribute to the work of the governing board in ensuring high standards of achievement for all children and young people in the school by:

- Setting the schools vision, ethos, and strategic direction.
- Holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils.
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.



#### Governor Committees

**Full Governors:** Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos, and strategic direction.

**Finance:** Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure money is well spent.

**Staffing:** Overseeing the wellbeing, appointment and management of the staffing community.

**Safeguarding:** Ensuring the safeguarding arrangements are complied with in line with legislation.

**Premises:** Ensuring the school premises continues to support the educational needs of the children.

**Curriculum and Standards:** Ensuring the curriculum is implemented and meeting the educational needs of the children.



*It has been so wonderful over the last two terms to see so many activities that are so core to the school community coming back online post COVID. We really look forward to the Easter Disco rounding off this terms activities.*

# Message from the Chair

Once again, welcome to this first issue of the Governors' newsletter. This absolutely does not replace the regular school newsletters sent out by Mr Tucker but rather is aimed at helping to fill a gap. We've realised that most parents probably don't really know who Woodmancote's governors are and perhaps don't necessarily know the range of activities in which we are involved. We're going to try to be a bit more visible, for example at school events, but we thought a newsletter would also be a good way of reaching out.

I'm now into my second year as Chair of Governors and, believe me, I still have plenty to learn! I get involved in all the committee meetings (see above) and have regular catch-up meetings with the Head, as well as with various other members of staff. My role, along with the rest of the team, is to provide support and to look at and challenge the strategic direction of the school. Operational matters are very much the responsibility of the Head and his staff. Most of the governors have no background in education but, instead, bring to bear our experience from other walks of life.

We're aiming to produce these newsletters 3 times a year and we hope you find them interesting. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at the email address above or, perhaps, have a chat to one of our parent governors in the playground.

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## Governing Body Meetings

During the Spring Term the Finance, Staffing, Premises, Safeguarding, Curriculum and Standard Committee and the Full Governing Board have all met at least once. A range of issues were discussed including:



- The school's financial budget for 2023-24.
- Pupil progress and attainment so far this year.
- Premises development: including development of outdoors provision for reception and playground refurbishment.
- Staff wellbeing and safeguarding review.
- Health and Safety Policy and Fire Risk Assessment.

As part of the Governing Body's monitoring responsibilities, Governors are involved in ensuring the school is making good progress towards achieving the actions in the School Development Plan. We are working on a new visit plan to encompass recent changes. During the Spring Terms visits have included:



- Nikki Stark meeting with Mr. Evans to discuss PE and School Sports Premium spend.
- Jessica Gane observing English being taught in year 2 with Mrs. Grosvenor and Mrs. Workman.
- Lauren Fitzjohn working with Mr Guest and Mrs Howard to talk through children's knowledge journals for Geography and History.



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