

26th September 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the new academic year and to our new families joining Chandag Infant School this year.

I would like to introduce myself and the rest of the governors to you and describe a little of what we do. We are all volunteers from families at the school, across the community and teaching staff. We are here to support and challenge the school to ensure that every child receives the best education possible and that all children make good progress to be the best that they can be.

I was elected as Chair of Governors in July but have been a governor at Chandag Infant School for four years before this. I have two children: my daughter has already moved on to the Junior School and my son is in Year 1. I work as a manager in the NHS so I have lots of experience of promoting high quality within a tight budget! I hope this experience will help to support Chandag Infant School to be the best that it can be. I am joined by:

Damian Vicary (Vice Chair)

Stuart McManus

Andrew Muncer

Carol Morris

Steve Lilley

Simon Butler

Kerrie Willington (Staff governor and Deputy head)

Claire Gurnsey (Staff governor)

Annie Smart (Staff governor and Headteacher)

We have a great team of governors, but always happy to hear from others who would like to join us. We would particularly welcome some teachers from other schools to join us, but most importantly, applications from anyone who has a passion for helping the school to excel. If you are interested in becoming a governor, you can email clerktogovernors@chandaginantschool.org.uk or let me know if you have any questions. If you would like to find out more about what governors do, there is more detail on the school website (<https://www.chandaginantschool.org.uk/our-school/#governors-page>).

Whether you're interested in become a governor or not, I would like to give you a flavour of what we've been doing recently.

We met on Wednesday evening this week and spent a little time reflecting on what we had achieved over the last year and our ambitions for the year ahead. We agreed some small but important changes last year, including the duration of the school day, development of joint moderation with the Junior School and embedding our ways of working with the Wellsway MAT. We also reviewed performance and attendance data for the school, received updates on safeguarding and the new Ofsted framework and started to plan our work with the school for the year ahead.

This year is likely to include a visit from Ofsted and we're looking forward to meeting the inspectors and telling them about life at Chandag Infant School. As a school we have a responsibility to rate ourselves each year and we've currently identified the school as "Good" which I think remains a reasonable self-assessment. I know some of you will be asking "why not outstanding?". We are certainly striving for outstanding and recognise some of the excellent practice at the school; but we need to be realistic with our expectations and recognise that this rating is increasingly applied to just a small percentage of schools.

If you have any comments or questions for Governors, please contact me by email or call the school office.

Best Wishes



Catherine Phillips

Chair of Governors, Chandag Infant School

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