

GOVERNORS NEWSLETTER

Summer Term 2018

A note from the Chair of Governors

Welcome

I'd like to welcome both the new governors who will be joining us this term and our new staff members: Miss Thickbroom, Mrs Rosser and Mr Morris.

This has been and will continue to be a busy term for Green Ridge with pupils in Chestnut undertaking their KS1 SATS tests and preparation for the end of the first year at Green Ridge.

The spring term was a lively one, especially with the cold weather (which is now well and truly behind us), and was rounded off nicely with the Easter Bonnet parade and the PTA's Easter disco.

I apologise for the delay in sending this newsletter, but with the imminent start of our new governors, we thought it best to delay the newsletter until we could confirm who will be joining us. You can find more details on our new governors later in the newsletter.

Update

Since the last newsletter the LGB and the school have been busy preparing for the expansion of the school next year. A key part of this expansion will be the move into the permanent school building in September 2018. Unfortunately the exceptionally cold weather that we have experienced this year has made life difficult for the contractors on site and caused some delays to the construction. Despite this, Kier is still hopeful that the building will be finished in time. We anticipate being able to move into the new building even if the school is not quite finished, as we will not need to occupy the whole building in September.

Mr. John Shirley
Chair of Governors



Local Governing Body (LGB)

Green Ridge has been overseen by the Transition Governing Body (TGB) since the school opened. The TGB is a short-term and smaller version of a full LGB designed to help get the school up and running.

As mentioned in the previous newsletter we have been looking for members of the local community and parents to become governors. I'm pleased to announce that we now have 6 new governors for Green Ridge, including 2 parent governors and 1 staff governor, who will be joining the team and helping us to oversee Green Ridge's continued growth.

Now that we are nearing the end of Green Ridge's first year, and we have recruited a new cohort of governors we will be running as a full LGB from May 2018.

Unfortunately, as part of this transition we have had to lose one of our current governors, Gayle Harrison, who has had to step down as a result of Reach2's internal policies. The TGB would like to thank Gayle for the work that she has put in over the last year and wish her well for the future.

The LGB will now consist of:

John Shirley:	Chair of Governors, REAch2 Appointed
Rachel Leach:	Vice Chair of Governors, REAch2 Appointed
Katrina Kelly :	Co-opted Governor
Sophy Davies:	REAch2 Appointed Governor
Tom Hinson:	REAch2 Appointed Governor
Bina Varsani:	Parent Governor
Laura Nunn:	Parent Governor
Sean English:	Staff Governor (Teaching)
Tara Erdos:	Staff Governor (Non-Teaching)
Aaron Wanford:	Headteacher (ex officio member)

Sean English (Staff Governor – Teaching)



Hello, my name is Sean English and I have recently become a governor at Green Ridge Primary Academy. Starting in September, I will also be the school's Deputy Headteacher. Having been part of the governing body in my last school I understand the exciting opportunities that being a governor can bring. As Green Ridge grows, I am very keen to support the school in every way I can and, as such, am looking forward to shaping the school through this role.

Katrina Kelly (Co-opted)

Before moving to Berryfields, I was used to mucking in when growing up in a village. I would like to transfer my voluntary ethos by supporting a growing community. I hope that my maturing knowledge and budding enthusiasm will benefit the Green Ridge as I continue to develop both personally and professionally in the Early Years sector.

Bina Varsani (Parent Governor)



I am a parent of two children in Willow class and am a committed member of the PTA. I have a deep interest in all aspects of education and am looking forward to working as part of a team to help contribute to the development of both staff and pupils at Green Ridge.

My 10 years' experience in my career as a community pharmacist have given me some core skills in communication, management, dealing with queries and team work, some of which could be utilised for this role.

Laura Nunn (Parent Governor)



With one child at Green Ridge, and another due to start at the new nursery in September, I very much have a vested interest in wanting the school to be as good as it can possibly be. I hope by volunteering as a governor, I can bring skills from my previous career in financial services - specifically process improvement / efficiency engineering and learning and development. I live in Berryfields with my husband, two daughters, and a very fluffy cat.

Sophy Davies (REAch2 Appointed)



I am a resident of Berryfields and a civil servant. I bring experience from being part of charity committees, including scouting and the WI. In addition, I have worked in programme management, data and governance roles. I feel these skills will be valuable to the governing body. I wanted to be a governor as I feel that every child should have access to the education they deserve regardless of their background.

Tom Hinson (REAch2 Appointed)



I am really excited to start work as part of the LGB. I live locally on Berryfields and I am a chartered accountant working for one of the Big 4 professional services firms, with experience of working for and advising large businesses and public sector bodies, mainly in the health and education sectors. I hope to be able to bring financial experience to the LGB to help ensure we are appropriately challenging and supporting the Green Ridge's financial plans.

Rachel Leach (Vice Chair)



The governors at Green Ridge work very hard behind the scenes with all the teaching and support staff. I personally believe we are all part of the Green Ridge community for the right reasons and that is to help grow the school into an outstanding educational establishment.

Throughout the past year, governors have been visiting the school to observe everyday school life. Not only do we observe the lessons but also we always meet with Mr Wanford and the team to check procedures are up to date; this is one of the ways we challenge the team on pupils' achievement and growth of the school. Every time I visit, I always have the school vision and ethos in the forefront of my mind:

To value and recognise the uniqueness and achievement of every member of our academy family.

I witnessed some amazing Easter Bonnets when I came to judge them back in March, the diversity amongst them was refreshing to see. I also find the 'Praise Assemblies' a positive encouragement to help children gain their confidence to achieve in their own way.

To promote British and Co-Operative values and attitudes of care, tolerance, trust and respect within the academy and wide communities.

During my last visit, I witness the pupils learning about all things British and in particular the Royal Family. I also thought that allowing students to bake for the wider community of Berryfields was a fantastic way of showing the pupils how to build their attitudes towards caring and respecting the community they live in.

I always leave my visits with a big smile on my face after seeing the pupils learning in a safe and happy environment. I look forward to watching the governing body expand and the school continuing on the path to greatness.

