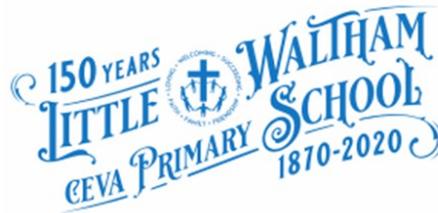


Governor Newsletter

Summer Term 2022



Aspiring to inspire others towards excellence, developing as individuals together in a distinctively Christian environment.

"For the body is not one member, but many."

1 Corinthians, 12:14

A message from the Chair of the Governing Body

Dear parents

Here we are at the end of another school year. As usual there are some farewells taking place, including after 14 years as head teacher, Mrs Maycock who is leaving Little Waltham for her well-earned retirement. As a parent having had 3 of my 4 children going through the school, experiencing every school year, school plays, trips, fairs, bizzarres and sports days, I am grateful for the steady and calm leadership of Mrs Maycock that has flowed through to all the staff. As a School Governor, and now Chair, I am grateful for Mrs Maycock's willingness to go the extra mile to ensure that every child is safe and supported, as well as inspired to be their best and flourish, true to the School's vision and values.

The last few years have been extremely challenging for all schools. It is important to remember that although all schools were in the same storm, each school can be represented by different sized boats. We have been reminded time and time again that direct comparison from one school to another during Covid was not possible as each local area had different challenges, capacities, and resources. This last school year has been an extremely positive year for the children, and it has been wonderful both as a parent, and as a Governor to finally be able to physically return to the school building. The wellbeing of the children has been extremely important while the staff team have also continued to teach a full curriculum across all abilities and levels.

September is a new start, with a new head. Mr Saunders has been into the school several times to ensure a smooth handover and planning for the new term is already underway. I am aware many parents are looking forward to meeting Mr Saunders and hearing about his plans for the children of Little Waltham. Having met with Mr Saunders again earlier this week, I can assure you he will be communicating opportunities to meet with him as early as possible in the term.

As Governors, we wish all the staff team, parents, and children a wonderful summer break. We particularly wish a peaceful retirement to Mrs Maycock and again want to thank her for her many years' service.

With very kind regards

Diane Regan

Chair of Governing Body

Governor Monitoring

The Resources Committee

The Resources Committee is one of the committees that governors of the school use to monitor governance and performance of the school. The committee meets once every term in a collegiate way with the headteacher and the school business manager in attendance to review the school's performance on finances, premises and personnel matters, issues that are critical to running a successful school.

The financial performance of a school is one of the key priorities for the governors of any school. The governors believe that Little Waltham School is in a good financial position and working closely with the headteacher and the senior leadership team, intend to maintain a healthy financial position for the school in the future.

Emmanuel Aluko, Chair, Resources Committee

The Teaching, Learning and Achievement Committee (TLA)

At the summer term TLA committee meeting, governors discussed the school's data with the head teacher and were updated on the school's development plan, which is a live document and updated regularly by subject leaders.

Governors were also very grateful to the subject lead for Science and PSHE who attended the meeting to share an update on both subjects, taking the time to answer our questions. It was an interesting and informative presentation and governors learned lots about the school's approach to Science and the increased profile of the subject at Little Waltham, including how teachers have been finding ways to inspire children, particularly when Covid restrictions were in place, with exciting and engaging experiments. For example, during Science focus weeks when the whole school has worked on the same STEM question but approached it in different ways—for example when they were investigating wind.

There is lots of excitement about developing partnerships with other local schools as well as exploring links with other external Science-focussed organisations to continue to develop this important aspect of the curriculum.

PSHE is a subject area that covers topics such as well-being, relationships and e-safety. It is not necessarily taught weekly, but instead teachers approach certain topics as they arise – for example learning to working together and developing team-work skills.

Governor Vacancies

If you regularly attend church and would be interested in joining the school's Governing Body as a Foundation Governor, please make contact with Diane Regan, Chair of Governors, who will be able to talk you about the role.

Goodbyes

Governors would like to take this opportunity to wish the year six children all the very best as they leave us to continue their educational journey at secondary school.

We hope that you will be taking with you happy memories of your time at Little Waltham and that you make many more over the coming years.

We would also like to extend a farewell to Mr. Knight, who is sadly leaving the school this summer. We would like to thank you all for your hard work and commitment to the school over the years, we are sad to see you leave, but wish you all the best in your new role.

Thank you

Governors would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs. Maycock and all members of staff for another excellent year at Little Waltham Primary School.

We would also like to thank parents and carers for your continued support and of course, thanks to the children, who continue to remind us all why we do what we do—the smiles on their faces, their sense of pride in their school and the progress they continue to make. They are all amazing!

We are looking forward to an exciting year ahead and taking the school forward together.

Meanwhile, we would like to wish everyone a happy, healthy and hopefully sunny summer break.

Little Waltham Primary School
Governing Body

