

BELLEVILLE GOVERNORS

23 April 2010

letter from the chair

kate amis

Dear Parents, carers and staff

Welcome back after the Easter break. The summer term is my favourite term at Belleville. I am looking forward to all the fun of the summer fair and sports day!

Many governors come into school in a variety of capacities during the working week but we are keen to take a more active part in school life so this year we will have 'Governors in school' week from 7 – 11 June. Governors are looking forward to focusing on their commitment to the school and meeting children, staff and parents in the playground, classrooms and lunch hall throughout the week.

We have a new member of the governing body, Gemma Ronte who has joined as a parent governor. Gemma has two children at Belleville – Max in 3L and Ella in RL. Gemma is an active member of the PTA and is looking forward to bringing her enthusiasm and skills to the governing body and we welcome her.

I thought you would be interested to hear a little about what we have been up to and how the governing body system works at Belleville. The governors meet once a term altogether – that is up to 18 people, for the full governing body meeting. At these meetings we approve reports and policies and make sure that we are up to date with and informed about all the legislation relating to how schools run. Often we have a presentation by about a specific aspect of what the school does from an expert member of staff. For example recently we have had presentations from Mrs Wright on safeguarding procedures in the school and 'every child matters'.

Governors are expected to attend training sessions to keep them up to date with what we are required to know so recently we had training from Miss Atherton about academic standards in school and how the school makes sure that each child meets their potential. We also had training from Wandsworth Governor Services about the new OFSTED system and how we can be more effective as a governing body.

Each governor also attends at least one sub committee where we have time to discuss and focus on key areas of the school. There are three subcommittees and each one meets once a term. The curriculum committee looks at what the children are learning and how well they are learning across their subjects. Governors make sure that we are helping the school to provide the resources needed and that the school is providing a broad and balanced curriculum, meeting the needs of the pupils and targeting areas for improvement. This group also looks at pastoral issues which affect the children such as behaviour policies and safeguarding.

In the finance and premises committee we plan and monitor how the school spends its money and prioritise improvements to the premises as part of what we call the 'building improvement plan'. From now on we will be including plans for the Forthbridge site development as part of these discussions.

Finally there is the staffing committee who support the school to ensure that we have the best staff in the roles available and that our staffing structure reflects the needs of the school.

With my best wishes



governing body

parent governors

Barbara Downie
Brian Ledbetter
Martin Marquez
Gemma Ronte
Alison Royce
Fiona Wilkins

staff governors

Sarah Atherton
Geraldine Burke
John Grove
Clare Lim

community governors

Martin Beaver
Sue Harries
Rebecca Hossain
vacancy

local education authority governors

Kate Amis
Jennifer Browne
Paul McGill
Emma Waterfall

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