

Dear Parents and Carers,

The first term is always very busy. We have welcomed new teaching and support staff. We've had open classrooms, parents evening, sharing assemblies and Rock Steady concerts, along with Christmas concerts from KS1 and Early years and our outdoor Christmas market organised and run by our FROGs team, led by Lisa Sproat.

Work of the Governors

Thank you to all the parents that voted in the governor elections. This term we welcomed our new parent Governor, Helen Birch will be a great addition to the team. We have been involved in a lot of visits alongside Teachers, Subject Leaders, The Headteacher and our School Effectiveness Adviser (SEA). Governors were able to meet with subject leaders this term to find out about their subject and how it is taught. This information is shared with all governors through reports.

Safeguarding

We continue to make our procedures for monitoring safeguarding more robust and systematic. Our Safeguarding governor, Chair of Governors, Head and Assistant head meet on a half termly basis to monitor systems and ensure updates on anything relating to safeguarding.

Parent feedback

We attended parents' evening to run our graffiti wall. Thank you to all the parents that took the time to talk to us. We asked if your children felt happy and safe at school and what you and your children understand about online safety. A follow up with our computer subject leader shows that online safety is taught confidently at the start of every computer lesson. Pupil voice shows there is an increased confidence in talking about online safety. You can find advice on our school website, under Parents online safety.

Attendance

Attendance was shared with the Teaching and Learning committee and then with the Full Governing Body. This continues to be an area of focus and a priority as a school. Mrs Reynolds has worked extremely hard since taking over leadership of attendance and does appear to be making some progress on improving this.

Wellbeing

Although wellbeing is not mandatory in schools it is very important. We offer a range of wellbeing initiatives in school. The creation of The Hive is an important addition, it provides a safe space for children needing additional support in a safe and proactive environment. Children can be referred by a teacher or they can self-refer. A range of activities are available such as Lego therapy, craft or they may wish to just talk. Daily feelings journals and mindfulness activities continue for all children. Managed zones of regulation including displays children can refer to are being used to tie wellbeing initiatives together. Parents can find a guide to Wellbeing on the School Website, in the pupils' class page.

Finally

The governors would like to say thank you to Mrs Birch and all the staff for all their hard work this term. We would like to wish all staff, pupils, and parents and carers a very Merry Christmas and we look forward to welcoming you all back in the New Year.

GALLEY HILL SCHOOL GOVERNORS

The Governing body consists of 13 Governors. Categories of governor include: Co-opted, staff, parent, Local Authority and associate.

Headteacher:

Mrs E Birch

Associate Governor:

Deputy Head: Miss S Elsey

Co-opted Governors:

Kerry Edwards – Chair–
Tracey Hunter - Vice Chair-
Karen Cleveland Marwick
Leah Pearce
Marian Sparrow
one Vacancy

Staff Governor:

Mrs H Pritchett (maternity leave)
Miss S Scott (maternity cover)

Local Authority:

Ruth Mason

Parent Governors:

Bob Mackenzie
Chris Allgrove
Helen Birch