

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are reaching the end of another school year, and what a busy year it has been.

Work of the Governors

This year the governors have been involved in a lot of visits alongside Teachers, Subject Leaders, The Headteacher and our Hertfordshire Improvement Partner. We have attended a Governors' open morning, where we observed maths lessons in every year group, which we all agreed showed good quality teaching, consistent across classes. We also looked at safeguarding around the school and the new Outdoor Play and Learning. The Resources committee have reviewed the budget for 2022-2023 and approved the budget for 2023-2024. They have carried out Health and safety inspections and reported that the school is compliant with all Health and Safety procedures. The Teaching and Learning Committee have monitored progress and attainment across all subjects, followed curriculum updates and reviewed the whole schools Vision and intent.

Safeguarding/online safety

Governors have monitored Safeguarding policies and procedures in line with Keeping Children Safe in Education, and Health and Safety policies. We have spoken to pupils and staff about how we keep children safe within Galley Hill. Feedback from pupils has always been very positive.

The importance of online safety is taught at the start of every computer lesson. As a school we use RM SafetyNet for filtering and monitoring, in line with guidance. This is monitored by our Designated Safeguarding Lead, our IT Technician and a Link Governor.

Parent surveys

We have attended parents' evenings to run our graffiti wall and produced an online survey. Thank you to all the parents that took the time to fill out the survey and/or post-it notes at parents evening. Your feedback is always welcome and helps us to improve the school. Results from these were very positive, with 97% of parents stating their children are happy at school.

Attendance

Attendance is still an ongoing concern, despite us doing all we can to try and improve it. Our attendance for the year is currently 92.8%. The Government's target is 95% attendance for all pupils. Our persistent absentee rate remains at 23.1% (national average 19.5%).

Behaviour

In a recent visit it was noted that the pupils' conduct on the day of the visit was consistently calm and orderly. Pupils' attitude to learning were overwhelmingly positive. Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL) has had a positive impact on behaviour and we will continue to develop this. Unfortunately, the same cannot be said for a handful of parents. Please remember you should be positive role models for children when in and around the school site. We would also like to emphasise that violence or threatening behaviour will not be tolerated in any circumstances.

Next steps

Alongside our usual monitoring schedule and half termly meetings, we will be preparing for our next Ofsted inspection. We are expecting a visit any time within the next 12-18 months.

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
Karen Cleveland Marwick – Vice Chair
Tracey Hunter
Leah Pearce
Gail Ringrose
Marian Sparrow

Staff Governor:

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

Local Authority:

Ruth Mason

Parent Governors:

Bob Mackenzie
Chris Allgrove
Anit Changela