



Templewood School

News from the Governors

May 2015

Welcome

Welcome to the Governors Summer Term Newsletter. We have lots of updates on things happening around school and on changes to the governing body. We also have new members of the Governing body to introduce. This year has seen a lot of changes in the governing body. We have been pleased to see so many of you at school events and look forward to seeing you at events running through the rest of the summer term.

Head Teacher

We are pleased to announce that Miss Morris will be returning from maternity leave. She was due to return in June, however, she will now return at the beginning of the Autumn term as a result of surgery. Mrs Emerson has agreed to remain Acting Headteacher until the end of the Summer Term. From September, Miss Morris & Mrs Emerson will be sharing the role of Headteacher, where Miss Morris will be in school Monday-Thursday and Mrs Emerson will be in school on Friday.

Miss Morris will be in school on certain occasions over the coming weeks, continuing to work alongside Mrs Emerson in the planning for the new academic year. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Emerson for her continued support.

An introduction to the new Governors

We would like to introduce you to the newest members of the governing body.

Viv Owen

I am a mum of three and a relatively new parent to the school. Alex, in Year 5, joined Templewood just over a year ago, and Melanie started in Year 1 in September. (My older son is in Year 7 at Monk's Walk).

We moved into the area, which we knew well through local friends, at the beginning of last year and I was a governor at our previous school. I hadn't intended to get so involved with Templewood quite so quickly, but when two Parent Governor roles became vacant in the autumn, I put my name forward, thinking that maybe I could put my experience to good use. It has really helped me to feel part of the school community and I am enjoying the role with all the challenges and rewards that it brings.

Helen Anthony

I am a parent governor with two children at Templewood: Alex in Year 2 and Jo in Reception. I stood for the role to become more involved in the school community, and because I believed that some of the skills I have acquired through my work (which concerns the development of government policy) would be useful to the governing body. Since becoming a governor, I have enjoyed contributing to the

development of the outdoor learning space, and have been part of the working group assessing the viability of breakfast and after school clubs at Templewood.

Reconstitution

The Department of Education has mandated that all governing bodies have to change the way that they are structured and how they operate. This is to ensure that the governing body has the ability to provide effective governance and can contribute to the success of the school. There are now less elected representatives from the parent and staff groups. Instead most governors will be co-opted representatives. A co-opted governor is someone who is appointed based on the skills they can bring to the governing body. The governor's role will still continue to focus on the strategic priorities of the school.

Outdoor Learning

The Governors have been project managing the design and construction of the outdoor learning space. The exciting project finally started in March following the very generous support of the TSA. The project is progressing well and is entering the final phase. We plan to open the area to everyone on Friday 26th June. Watch out for further information on this exciting new area.

Roof and Windows

We are pleased to let you know that the works on the roof are finally finished. The school is now leak free and a lot warmer thanks to the addition on nine inches of insulation. Some final snags are still being addressed but this is a great step forward and one that the Governing Body have been actively working on for the last four years.

You may have seen our note or the article in the Welwyn Hatfield Times on the windows. The council rejected a second windows replacement application in February. We are very disappointed but are continuing to work with our partners at Herts CC to try and find a solution that will allow the windows to be replaced. We will continue to update you as the project continues.

Templewood School – Architectural Icon:

Architectural Icon may not be the first thing that comes to mind when you think of Templewood School but our friends at the 20th Century Society would disagree. In a recent exhibition Templewood was selected as one of the most important 100 buildings built between 1914 and 2014. This is a real honour to be in the same list as buildings such as Festival Hall and Battersea Power Station. Look out for 1950 as that is the year that Templewood was selected as the 20th Century Societies building of the year.

School Party

Come and 'meet' your governors on the 4th July. We will be running the BBQ and offering delicious vegetarian and meat sausages and burgers for all.