



Jargon Buster #43: ‘Governors’

Every now and again I use our weekly newsletter to keep you up to date or explain the background to current issues in the school or in the wider education context through a series of ‘jargon busters’. You can see all of my previous articles on the [jargon buster page](#) of the school website.

The governing body of Home Farm works incredibly hard behind the scenes to help make the school a robust, publicly accountable and effective place for pupils to attend. I thought it would be useful to briefly explain the role of these people, who are they are and some of the things that they get up to.

Governors are unpaid volunteers who have the duty to ensure that the Headteacher and staff are held publicly accountable for the actions and outcomes of the pupils. Each governor has a responsibility to monitor aspects of the school’s running. Some of these include:

- Ensuring financial regulations are adhered to, that there is proper budget use and appropriate safety checks on new staff;
- Asking questions about pupil data trends and comparing them to local and national figures to ensure the school is performing well;
- Visiting pupils to ask about the impact and enjoyment of lessons, their safety and happiness in school;
- Regular meetings to explore in depth issues that are hot topics nationally;
- Ensuring the Headteacher is challenged and able to account for all actions.

The governing body meets every half term to discuss teaching and learning and is kept up to date on current initiatives by staff who are then questioned by the governors. Governors are also present at events held by the school from summer and Christmas fayres through to parent forums. Some governors can be parents, some work for or have roles in the local authority and some are local business people. All governors apply their life skills, experience and business senses to the role and in this way, the school is challenged to be the best it can be from every angle.

Please visit the [Governor page](#) on our website for more information, including our annual governance statement for the last school year.

Richard Potter
Headteacher

Diary dates

Friday 28th September	HFSA AGM and tea party, from 2:45pm
Monday 1st October	Year 6 depart for Kingswood residential
Friday 5th October	Parent Forum meeting, 2:15pm
Tuesday 9th October	School photos taken
Thursday 11th October	Open Classrooms from 3:15pm
Thursday 11th October	Rossetti (5) visit to Chatham Docks
Monday 15th and Tuesday 16th October	Bloom and Rosen Class Parents Evening, 15:30 to 18:00. Please note this is a change from the previously published date.
Monday 22nd October to Friday 26th October	Half-term
Monday 29th October	Non-pupil day – school closed to pupils.

Parent Forum

Please join us for the first of our Parent Forum meetings for this school year on Friday 5th October at 2:15pm in the school library.

These are informal meetings at which we discuss a range of matters relating to life in school.

If you would like to attend, just come along to the school for 2:15, no need to book a space.



