

MID-YEAR REPORT FROM THE GOVERNORS

FEBRUARY 2023.

School Governors have continued to work with school leaders to ensure the best possible outcomes for all pupils. We focus not only on educational standards but we also consider safety, well-being and general development as a regular part of our work. This includes staff well-being.

One of our Governors, Mrs Grace Wight, has been on Maternity Leave since September 2022. We look forward to seeing her soon. Mrs Elizabeth Chan has been elected to the Board of Governors and we are already working well with her as she has participated in Meetings and activities. We wish her a very warm welcome.

As a Board of Governors, we always strive to develop a positive ethos within our team. We work well together utilising the various skills we individually bring to the Board. We evaluate our performance as Governors and we discuss our achievements and identify any aspects for improvement. This exercise has just been completed with the Board and we are delighted with the results.

Governor Visits to school have taken place. I was delighted to attend the three Christmas productions in December 2022. All three were excellent and the spirit of Christmas is alive and well at West Heath Primary School. The pupils excelled themselves (as staff did!) and the audience was treated to some outstanding aspects by various children from across the age range. Other Governor Visits include Safeguarding, ArtsMark progress, Early to Career teacher Induction, Pupil Premium, Sports provision as well as attendance at the annual Staff Conference in September 2022. I look forward to meeting you at Parents Evening in March 2023 to seek your views about the school.

The two main Committees have met regularly according to their annual plans. School Finances are on track and we anticipate a balanced budget at the year-end in March/April 2023. Staffing levels are regularly discussed as we seek to ensure an appropriate level of balancing school finances and having the right number of staff to meet the needs of all pupils. Health and Safety aspects have also been scrutinised by Governors. School Subject Leaders have given subject presentations to Governors including Maths and Geography which were fascinating and informative. Standards and pupil progress have been considered closely by Governors and we discuss these aspects at every Committee Meeting. We also look at some examples of work undertaken by pupils in order to see for ourselves the progress being made. This has been a positive exercise.

Future Plans for Governors

To continue to develop the positive team ethos of the Board.

To continue to develop good, professional relationships with all staff.

To continue to monitor the current School Development Plan to ensure the best possible outcomes for all pupils.

To increase Governor Visits with a focus on school improvement, value for money, pupil and staff well-being and health and safety aspects.

A more detailed Report will follow in July 2023.

I wish you all well and look forward to meeting you in the future.

Frances Millett. Chair of Governors. February 2023.