

# GOVERNOR NEWSLETTER

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## Orchard and the Community

As part of building links with the community we have forged a relationship with the Food Bank, run by New Community Church on Station Road. The gifts from Harvest Festival were taken there by Year 6 and the School Council on 11th October. We took over 180kg of foodstuffs, enough to feed nine families for a week.

We also have links with the Rotary Club, who provide reading support in school, and have also recently supplied the Gardening Club with 1000 crocus bulbs, planted as part of the campaign to eradicate polio worldwide.



## Hello to all Parents/ Guardians

As I write this article the school is rapidly moving towards the end of the Autumn Term.

I would like to welcome the parents of the new children and hope that your children have settled into their first term at Orchard Primary School.

I reported last term that we have re-organised the governing body meetings, we met as a full governing body on the 29th September and will meet again on the 24th November. The change enables governors to work closer together in small groups and as a whole team. It also means that we can be more effective in the way we hold the school to account.

We have divided the area of responsibility up as follows:-

Leadership and management Helen Sellick, Paul Atkinson, John Cotgrove

Quality of Teaching Abbie Fulks, Margaret Brook,

Outcomes Justin Miller, Mrs Rowntree, Sue Twynam

Personal Development, Behaviour and Welfare Viv Johnson, John Chalkley, Ms Sharma

The work load of the governing body has increased rapidly over the last few years and it has been decided that we would have 2 vice chairs; Abbie Fulks has been elected as the second vice chair.

Best wishes

Sue Twynam



## Thank You

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We would like to say a huge thank you to all the staff and parents who volunteered their time on 5th November to help develop the early years area.

We appreciate everything you have done!

## Coffee Morning

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The next meet the governor's session will be a coffee morning on the 2nd December at 9.30am (after gold book)

We look forward to seeing you there



## What does our role as governors involve?

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In the last newsletter we wrote about how access to regular training helps governors keep up to date and develops their knowledge and skills to carry out their functions effectively.

The key function of governors is to ensure the best possible education for every child in the school. To make decisions about the current priorities and future needs of the school, governors need to have access to a range of information that helps them understand the school and its strengths and weaknesses.

The governing board meets every half term and receives reports from the Head teacher and senior staff. This includes information about pupil progress. Governors also visit the school to speak to subject leaders and staff and also to children about their learning.

## Website

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Last year the school contracted with a new supplier to build and maintain our website. We're very pleased with the way it's turned out and hope you find it an improvement on the previous website.

We've tried to make it easy to navigate the website, so that all the information is clearly signposted. You will be able to find all the information you require on the website. If you have any suggestions for improvements or if there is anything that you would like to see on the website, please let us know.