



Joy Lane Primary School

A Love of Learning, for Life, for All

Oyster Bay Nursery & Oysters SRP (ASD)

Executive Headteacher: Ms D J Hines

Head of School: Mr M Ashley-Jones

22 March 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

I am privileged to have been elected as Chair of the Governing Body of Joy Lane School. I have had a long association with the school going back to the mid 1980s when my children attended the school and I served as a parent governor.

My colleagues bring a wide range of complementary skills and professional knowledge to the governing board. We work as a team. Our governing body is made up of two elected parents of pupils in the school, an elected member of the teaching staff, one representative of the Local Education Authority and six community Governors co-opted for their particular skills and professional backgrounds.. We undertake regular training and keep up to date with current education issues and challenges. Our Executive Headteacher is also a governor of the school and the Head of School is an Associate Governor. Two of our governors are appointed Vice Chairs. You can find details of the whole governing body on the school website.

Governors have a strategic role and support the Executive Headteacher, Senior Leadership team and teaching staff who are committed to achieving the highest standards of education for all our children. We monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the school to ensure all children are given the opportunity to reach their full potential both academically and socially.

Each member of the Governing Body serves on one or more committees with responsibilities concerning particular areas of school life. Currently there are two committees: Learning and Development and Resources and Premises. Each committee includes either the Executive Head Teacher or the Head of School, is chaired and minuted by a clerk, and reports back to our Full Governing Body which meet five times each year. Governors have responsibilities such as performance management, school finance and exclusions whilst ensuring alongside the Executive Headteacher and Senior Management team that the school delivers a first class education for all our children.

The Governing Body has overall responsibility to ensure the school financial budget is administered to the benefit of all pupils and is open and transparent. You will have heard of the current financial situation schools are facing with government cuts in budgets with more to come. You cannot have missed it! We fully support the campaign to increase school funding and have joined with the Coastal Alliance (CACoT) to urge the Government to urgently boost funding to schools. We are dedicated to continuing with this mission.

During October last year the school received a short inspection by OFSTED. Governors are delighted with the extremely positive OFSTED outcome. The report highlighted in particular that the school's exceptional leadership, and strong and skilful teaching. We were pleased to note that parent's views were very encouraging. The Ofsted report has been published and can be viewed on the school website. Parents/Carers can feel confident the school is in a highly positive position with continuing upward trends.



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One of the Governor's key priorities is supporting a project to improve the current facilities of the swimming pool as well as developing new ideas for its use. Our swimming pool is an important asset for our pupils and children in the wider community. However, the time has come for urgent repairs and improvements which cannot be sustained by the school budget. With your support and ideas we will be seeking sponsorship both locally and nationally. You will be hearing about our project over the coming weeks and months and we hope you will give us your active support. The Friends of Joy Lane are also involved in the project and are giving their support. We look forward to seeing all the children enjoying our wonderful facility for many years to come.

Should you wish to get in touch please contact us through the Clerk of Governors. Our Clerk's email address is: clerk@joylane.kent.sch.uk

I look forward to keeping in contact with you.

Yours sincerely

Chris Graves

Chris Graves
Chair of Governors