

# YOUR CHI

## Governor's Newsletter July 2017

As we come to the end of another busy year I want to update you on the work that the school governors do voluntarily on your behalf. I have been a governor at CHI since 2008 and it is with great pleasure I was appointed Chair in November 2016.

Governors act as "critical friends" to the school with our number one aim being to ensure that your children are getting the best education possible. There are 11 governors working in committees, meeting each half-term looking at issues from safeguarding the children to safeguarding the school finances. We have a considerable role in monitoring the implementation of the school curriculum and upholding standards. Governors are working hard to protect the special 'family feel' of CHI, and how staff ensure that play, creativity and learning go hand in hand. This is becoming more challenging in the face of national funding cuts to schools and pressures on staff to 'do more with less'.



We are excited that our recent governor 'recruitment drive' resulted in lots of interest and applicants of high calibre and we will be announcing our new governors in the Autumn Term.

I want to thank you all for your continued support of the school throughout this year and thank the staff for their continual hard work. With best wishes for a restful summer

Jo Taussig, Chair



We meet each term as a full governing body but also in smaller committees:

1. Resources
2. Curriculum and Standards
3. Children, Community and Safeguarding

### PARENT / GOVERNOR DROP IN SESSIONS

Each term we hold a session for parents to come in and chat to governors to express any concerns or talk through any particular matters. Please look out for dates in the School Newsletter and on the website. You can get in touch with the Clerk to the Governors Catherine Havers anytime via the School Office or via email on [chaver4.314@lgflmail.org](mailto:chaver4.314@lgflmail.org)

### Your governing body:

**Jo Taussig (Chair)**  
**Janet Berry (Headteacher)**  
**Victoria Clayton**  
**Taki Austin**  
**Daniel Wright**  
**Amy Price -Coggins**  
**Kathryn Moore**  
**Maureen Shepherd**  
**Alison Reid**  
**Kirsten Day**  
**(1 x Vacancy)**

**Associate Members: Leandro Silvera,**  
**Sabreena Juneja, Karen Packham,**  
**Diana Kill, Sue Jakob**

## SPOTLIGHT ON OUR COMMITTEES

The [Resources](#) committee oversees the school's spending and compares the amount spent to the income received from the Kingston borough. It ensures that any large amounts of money which need to be spent, for example on building works and IT infrastructure, can be afforded and are a valuable use of the school savings. Like all schools around the country funding is an increasing concern as we are seeing our income reducing while costs remain the same. We are lucky to have wonderfully supportive parents who continue to contribute to the school fund and also pay for school clubs, swimming lessons and school trips. This allows the school to continue to offer a wide range of extra opportunities for the children while the school budget can be focused on providing the core curriculum needs. [Kathryn Moore](#)



The [Children, Community and Safeguarding](#) committee has had a productive year. In January we conducted a thorough internal audit looking very carefully at all of our policies and procedures in ensuring the welfare and safety of all children in the school. To follow this up, in March we invited an external auditor to spend a day at the school speaking to Mrs Berry, the teachers, the Governors and the children. The report was extremely positive and complimentary. We have created a new Swimming policy to make swimming at school as safe and enjoyable for the children as possible. This has meant looking carefully at how volunteers help and support the children in a safe and trusting way. Time has been spent considering the issues we have relating to road safety in the horseshoe and the surrounding roads. There are ongoing concerns relating to incidents of inconsiderate and dangerous parking and as a committee we continue to look at how to ensure the safety of our children every day as well as how to maintain good relations with local residents which is essential for our school to thrive as part of the local community. Parents play a key role in helping us to do this. We have recently looked at the attendance and lateness statistics for this year. It is proven that persistent lateness has a real impact on a child's performance at school, as well as being disruptive to their peers and teachers. Ofsted inspections look very closely at attendance and absence statistics and it is genuinely in everyone's interests to have children in school and ready to learn on time in the morning. Steps have been made by the school to address punctuality and we are pleased to see a great improvement in this area. [Alison Reid](#)



The [Curriculum and Standards](#) committee works with the school to ensure that the SIP (school Improvement Plan) is implemented throughout each year. We look at and analyse all the school's data that includes SATs results, Phonics results, midyear end of year group predictions for each subject and the actual outcome of results. An external School Improvement Partner visits the school once a term and a full report is then submitted to the committee. This year we made visits to the school to view pupil's work and have had presentations from all the lead teachers for Reading, Writing, Maths, Science, EYFS and Special Educational. The teachers gave a full rundown of any areas that had been highlighted for improvement or expansion and exactly how this was being addressed and implemented into everyday teaching. One of the areas of focus this year has been Mathematics, where a whole new Calculation Policy has been written and implemented to ensure even better cohesion throughout the year groups. [Victoria Clayton](#)

