

Meldreth Primary School's Governing Body

July 2022

END OF YEAR NEWSLETTER



We are reaching the end of another (very hot) academic year, and this year again has seen us as families and members of the school community get used to another way of doing things as we have begun to open school following the pandemic. Whilst we have enjoyed a year of no school closures we are still seeing the effects of COVID which have been tricky for school to balance with both pupil and staff absence. I am proud to say I think school has, yet again, achieved this with a clear understanding of our vision and values and particularly the 'enjoy' part which shows the caring side to our school.

I would like to thank all staff, parents and students on behalf of the Governing body for their continued efforts to make our school community as amazing as always. It has been lovely as a Governor and parent to be able to visit school again, where we have been able to enjoy events such as plays and sports days in person, plus the ever-popular PTA disco.

This is a key place to mention this year's PTA committee chaired by Helen Kirbyshire. Governors would like to thank them for their relentless hard work and tenacity with regards to fundraising, particularly when getting together has been difficult. The committee



has needed to be innovative and think outside the box and has achieved greatly by managing to secure enough funding to replace and fit the new school pool which has enabled all children at Meldreth to have been enriched by the use of this. Moving forward we hope to work together with the PTA to improve the safety around school at pick up and drop off times.

Strategic Direction and Stakeholder Focus

The views of our stakeholders, as always, remain a focus for Governors and enable us to be able to perform our important function as a board to ensuring we are considering stakeholders views and provide an opportunity to triangulate data by supporting what we see in school. It is also a key way that we can raise areas for focus and improvement. Therefore, I thank you for your engagement and am pleased that 107 of you took the time to provide us with this important feedback.

Our parent survey reported very positive results with 94% of parents feel their children are happy at school and 98% feel safe at school with 99% of you would recommend our school to another parent. We also recognise, that there are areas for improvement, especially as we hope to recover more from the effects of the pandemic and therefore Governors have spent considerable amount of

time discussing the results with school leaders, where we can seek to build upon a very positive overall response.

As part of this Governors chose to look at behaviour in school and observe the implementation of the school Positive Behaviour policy on a recent visit. Governors met with the Anti-Bullying Council to obtain pupil voice and were not only impressed by the knowledge of the children but were very pleased to hear that they reported bullying in school was 'very rare'. The anti-bullying council have also created a new Anti-Bullying Charter and discussed it with their classes.

Communication as always remains a focus and we continue to support school on implementing new systems for improvement. School and Governors have begun to focus on moving our school development plan away from COVID recovery. This enables us to drive our school forward and raise outcomes for our young people; taking into account the effects of the pandemic. We are now in a position for Governors to visit school to monitor the progress that school leaders are making in implementing our strategic priorities. This next academic year will see a full implementation of our governor visits schedule.

Staff Changes

This year we say goodbye to **Mrs Farrar (Mrs Maggie)** who has worked tirelessly to support school as our cleaner and midday supervisor, her job being crucial especially throughout the pandemic. **Miss Hill**, our Year 6 teacher for the past 4 years is moving on to a new adventure, we thank her and wish her all the best. We are also pleased to welcome **Mr Fred Hargreaves** who will be joining us in Year 3 for September- Welcome to Meldreth Primary Mr Hargreaves.



Governor Recruitment

The Board of Governors at Meldreth Primary School is seeking to recruit one new governor to complete our team. Being a school governor is a challenging but hugely rewarding role. If you would like to support our school we would love to hear from you.

Typically, governors spend 10 hours per month on governor duties; attending two meetings per term and coming to these with questions about the reports, which school leaders provide. Training is provided. Contact chair@meldreth.cambs.sch.uk.

Changes in Governing Body Membership

We are delighted to announce that two new Governors joined the board this year: **Claudia Bickford-Smith** as a co-opted Governor and **Paul Samways** as Parent Governor. We are very excited they have chosen to come and work with us, bringing excellent expertise to the board.

We say goodbye to **Clare Yelton** this year who has been an outstanding Governor and support for school as our Vice Chair.

If you would like to find out more about our governing board, head over to [our website](#) where you can read all about us.

Finally, the governing board would like to thank all staff at school for working tirelessly to ensure Meldreth fulfils its visions and values and is a supportive and engaging learning environment.

Have a great summer and we will see you in September for another successful year of learning.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "E. Tidby". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Chair of Governors

Contact Us

We are always keen to hear the view of parents. Please feel free to tell us what you think at any time. You can contact us by:

- Leaving a note/comment addressed to the Chair of Governors at the school office
- Emailing: chair@meldreth.cambs.sch.uk