

GOVERNORS' NEWSLETTER

SUMMER TERM
2019



I often get asked by pupils and parents – what is a Governor? So I would like to share this definition I recently found which I think sums up the Orchard team:

The manager is the expert and has been found by the Owners to get the best out of the club. The manager finds the best coaches who can help make the players the best at what they do. They decide what the rules are for the players, manage the day-to-day/operational side of things, decide on strategy and tactics. They work closely with the coaching team to make sure everything is running well...that the players turn up to practice and are doing everything they can to make sure they perform well. THE HEAD TEACHER IS THE MANAGER and THE DEPUTY HEAD IS THE ASSISTANT MANAGER.

The Coaches are well trained, highly motivated, experts, specialists, put in a brilliant performance whenever they are at work because the players look to them as an example. They were all players once so know how it works...some of them are experts in defence, some are strikers but they all work together to make sure the players are the best they can be. THE STAFF ARE THE COACHES

Football clubs have boards. The board appoint the manager, set targets with the manager, oversee the finances, ensure the best use of resources, provide challenge & support, not necessarily football experts, but all ambitious for the club to do well. THE GOVERNORS ARE THE BOARD/OWNERS

Then, if you ask a football club who are the most important people, what do they say? The PLAYERS! You desperately want them to come, work really hard on practice and the match - and at the end of the match, whether they have won or not, know they have done the best they could for themselves and the team. THE PUPILS ARE THE PLAYERS.

Then there is another group – the supporters. They turn up every week, cheering the team on, wanting them to do well. Even if things aren't going too well they are there...on the sidelines...cheering and singing. They are really proud of their team and the team work very hard because they want the supporters to be proud. THE PARENTS/CARERS AND THE COMMUNITY ARE THE SUPPORTERS

EVERYONE WORKS TOGETHER TO MAKE THE PLAYERS THE BEST THEY CAN BE

As we come to the end of another busy, eventful, school year it is an ideal time to acknowledge the hard work of all the staff at Orchard Junior School. They are a wonderful, passionate group of people who do their absolute best to make sure every child is happy at school whilst managing to encourage and enthuse them to do their very best at their learning. It really is like belonging to a large, slightly dysfunctional, happy family and it is a pleasure to work alongside such professionals.

The hard work this year has been rewarded by the Year 6 pupils performing extremely well in their SATs tests and we are very proud of them all. Whilst the test results have been very pleasing we are of course, aware that these “moment in time” scores do not show how kind, caring, confident, musically talented, artistic, trustworthy and thoughtful all the Year 6 pupils are. We are looking forward to sharing their last week at Orchard Junior School with them as we enjoy their leavers’ performance and their leavers’ assembly. We wish them all the best in the next chapter of their lives.

ORCHARD JUNIOR SCHOOL HAS A VACANCY FOR A CO-OPTED GOVERNOR

We invite you to apply for an exciting opportunity to join our Governing Body as a co-opted Governor. A co-opted Governor is usually someone who does not have a child at the school. It could be a grandparent, a work colleague, or a neighbour? Please pass on the information below to anyone who you think may be suitable for the role.

The Governing Body of our school is responsible for ensuring that pupils receive high quality education and that the conduct of the School reflects this aim. We work with the Headteacher on the strategic planning and management of the school considering and agreeing the aims and policies of the school. We also are involved in discussing and approving the targets for improvement, appointing the staff and setting and monitoring the budget.

We are seeking a person who fits the following description:

- Has business and/or financial management skills and/or Human resources expertise.
- Is an analytical and flexible thinker
- Is a confident communicator
- Has an open and enquiring mind
- Shows a willingness to listen and make informed judgements
- Is able to work well with others
- Is interested in education generally
- Has a desire to play a part in improving our school

Is willing to give at least initially 20 hours per term to attend meetings and training which includes attending Full Governor meetings every half term, joining at least one committee which meet once every half term and be linked to an area of improvement which will require you to meet with that improvement leader at least twice a year.

If you match the above description we would like to invite you to discuss the voluntary position further. Please contact Nikki Brigg, Chair of Governors, via the school office on 02380 843162 or adminoffice@orchard-jun.hants.sch.uk. Please have a look at our school website to find out more about us.

Closing date for applications is 30 October 2019. Please note that for the protection of children all governor appointments are subject to a vetting process and identity check.