



Lavant

C.E. Primary School

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19th July 2024

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Governors' Newsletter Summer 2024

This has been yet another exciting and interesting year for Governors at Lavant as we gradually adjust to being part of the Bishop Luffa Learning Partnership. On the surface, nothing seems to have changed much but behind the scenes we are already experiencing the benefits of belonging to BLLP. From sharing policies, mini-buses, carpenters, HR and finance, curriculum expertise and knowledge to the involvement of Bishop Luffa students with our school. We are sure that as more schools join the partnership our children's education will be greatly enriched.

As usual, Governors have been keeping a close eye on the budget ensuring that, however tight, we spend for maximum impact. We agreed a substantial amount of money to be spent on the Early Years outside Learning Area. We would like to thank the Friends who also donated money towards this project and Mrs Totman who meticulously planned the space so that children could enjoy imaginative play whilst still having plenty of scope for learning opportunities. Work is also now well underway on the new A286 crossing.

During the year the Teaching and Learning Committee have monitored Pupil Progress, the provision for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, Maths and English and are impressed by the overall standard of pupils' work, the care and dedication of our teachers.

The Premises, Health and Safety Committee are continuing to ensure that our buildings are maintained to a high standard, safety regulations upheld, fire drills carried out regularly and any perceived risks quickly mitigated.

We have been pleased to welcome two new Governors this year, Mrs Lorraine Whittaker and Mrs Georgina Blair:



Georgina says "I am excited to be joining Lavant as a governor. I knew it was a special place when the first thing I saw on my first visit was year two leaving assembly still singing songs. I am looking forward to learning about the primary sector. It is a very different energy and dynamic from secondary teaching, where I spent twenty-five years. Throughout this time, I was a teaching mentor, developing and delivering training to spread good practice and improve student outcomes. I also trained student teachers and supported those new to the profession. I learned a great deal from

these experiences, although there was nothing better than being in the classroom teaching history.

In 2015, I branched out into writing history textbooks for Pearson Edexcel GCSE. IGCSE and A level as well as designing hundreds of learning activities for them and on-line learning

platforms such as Seneca. I also worked for Peak publishing writing social studies books for years 4 and 5 and history books for years 6 and 7. I now write full time. My favourite way of spending my free time is with my great nephews and nieces. Otherwise, I love drawing and watercolour painting alongside learning to write middle grade fiction with the Golden Egg Academy."

Lorraine says "Since my grandson started Lavant C of E Primary School in 2019, I have been constantly impressed with the school's warm atmosphere and inclusivity. I've been actively involved with Lavant for the past couple of years listening to children in robin class read once a week, so it's a privilege to be appointed as a school governor and bring some of my experience as a former primary school teacher to the team.



I completed my teacher training at Bishop Otter College in Chichester before moving back home to Cornwall where I taught in mainstream primary schools. After moving to Hampshire, I taught in a unit for children with emotional and behavioural difficulties and when my family moved to West Sussex, I became Teacher in Charge of a Primary Pupil Referral Unit in a challenging but rewarding role that saw many children return to mainstream school with improved outcomes. It was an honour to receive a British Empire Medal for my work in education shortly after retiring.

These days I enjoy spending time with my children and my four grandsons, traveling with my husband and friends, participating in local groups, Pilates and hearing Robin class children read!"

The Governors would like to thank all the staff for their continued commitment to achieving the very best for each child in such a caring and supportive way. We would also like to thank everyone who gives some of their time to the school, whether this is listening to children read, keeping the grounds tidy or just turning up to support your child at an event. It is the community spirit that makes this school unique and thrive.

Have a wonderful summer!

Kind regards,

Ann Smith

Mrs Ann Smith

Vice Chair of Governors