



Governing Body

Upper Beeding Primary School

School Road, Upper Beeding, BN44 3HY

Tel: 01903 812288

Fax: 01903 816401

Email: ubpsgovernors@yahoo.com

Website: <https://upper-beeding.eschools.co.uk/web>

Chair: Mr N Pringle Clerk: Miss L Brown

Tuesday 18th December 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

Governor Newsletter Winter 2018

I hope you have been able to enjoy some of the many school events in the run up to Christmas. As usual the children's productions have been amazing! The staff always put a tremendous amount of work into honing the performances and you can see how much the children enjoy taking part. Apart from being lovely on a purely entertaining level, we think that they help to give children confidence and give all in the school an opportunity to shine.

We wanted to let you know about some of the areas that we, as Governors, have been working on this term.

School Website

We have been working with the school to make the website easier to navigate and to provide more content which shows off the creative environment which we value so much. There are more photographs and videos for you to look at and we will be adding to these as the year progresses.

The place to visit for useful information is now all under the menu "Parents", examples of the children's work and the topic weeks are in "Our Learning" while photos and videos of life at school are located within "Our School".

<https://upper-beeding.eschools.co.uk>

Twitter

We are delighted and fully support the setting up of a new Twitter feed which you can follow to keep up with the latest news from school. We think it'll be a really useful addition to the way the school keeps parents and the wider community informed about the many great stories involving our children. Have a look, and follow us so you get regular updates.

<https://twitter.com/beedingprimary>

Awards

The Governors would like to congratulate the school on its recent Gold accreditation for Sportsmark and Artsmark awards. These two awards show that the school values the all-round education of the children, not just the excellence in reading, writing and maths (these are obviously important too - see below). Congratulations to Miss Stuart and Mrs Wellby who have led on our applications. However, we recognise that we can only achieve such a great result with the whole school's involvement from all the teachers and teaching assistants who support art and sport in the school.



We believe these awards are well worth all the effort that goes into them. Not only does it help the school to raise its game to be even more ambitious, but they also act a useful tool for checking that we are following best practise and that our provision is as comprehensive as it can be.

Funding

I'm sorry to have to report that the school budget continues to be a difficult balancing act. The Chancellor's budget did give us some extra money for "little extras" and, while we are grateful for anything, it doesn't make up for significant rising costs in other areas. We can only hope that post-Brexit (it can't drag on forever surely?!) the government is able to address the under-funding of education in a more substantial way. If it doesn't, I'm afraid we will be forced to make new savings in the year ahead which will sadly have an impact on the education of children here.

New Parent Governor

Following the advertised vacancy for a Parent Governor, I'm pleased to announce that Mr Andy Grinham has joined the Governing Body. Andy said on his application:

"I am a company director working with music teachers in schools throughout the UK. I have two children in the school, in Reception and Year 2. I am a former pupil (and house captain!) myself. I wish to contribute, to participate, and to support Upper Beeding Primary School."

It is great to have a new parent on the Governing Body, but we are looking for more. If your new year's resolution is to get more involved in your local community and give something back, we would love to hear from you. Just drop me a line on the email above and I can give you more information about how you can get involved.

Governor Visits

Governors continue to visit the school to see how teachers and staff are addressing key areas in the school's development plan. This term we have seen how the school is honing its provision in the teaching of "Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar", we have talked to maths leaders about how the school challenges all children to reach their full potential, and, at the start of the term, we saw how well children have been settling into their new classes. Every time we come into school we are impressed by the standard of behaviour and how keen they are to learn.

Final Thoughts

It's been another successful term at Upper Beeding. Governors see reports made by external visitors - they have all ratified our judgment that the school is currently in outstanding shape! Visitors to the school have been extremely complimentary commenting particularly on how happy the children are and the lovely feel of the school! The Governors thank Mrs Linford and her staff for all their hard work - they all deserve a good Christmas break. We hope you have a great Christmas too!

Best wishes



Neil Pringle
Chair of Governors

