

Introduction from the Chair of Governors

Dear Parents/Guardians,

There can be no denying the challenging circumstances that we have all found ourselves in nationally, with Covid-19 dominating all of our actions. It has been and continues to be a hugely emotional and exacting time for all of our Heathwood Community.

During these challenging times, the Governing Body has continued to function and remain an active part of school life meeting virtually, receiving regular and timely updates from the school, Headteacher and SLT; making decisions about pupil and staff wellbeing, finance, curriculum and health and safety matters. The Governors have been very impressed by pupil engagement, parental support and the outstanding work of staff through these unprecedented times.

The Governing Body will continue to support the delivery of the School Development Plan and keep safeguarding at the forefront of everything we do and implement plans to ensure our financial situation remains healthy.

The Governing Body would like to express their gratitude to Mrs Dove, her Senior Leadership Team, teachers and all staff for their dedicated work during this difficult time. All of the staff continues to work tirelessly in order to ensure that the school continues to provide the best possible education and care for its pupils in these unprecedented times. We look forward to continuing to work with you to provide the very best education for all of our pupils.

Paula Bangs

Chair of Governors

Heathwood Lower School

Report from the Chair of Management and Resources

The last year was a busy and extraordinary for the management and resources committee.

As with previous years school budgets remain tight and all expenditure is always closely monitored to balance a healthy financial position whilst also delivering the best educational experience for our children.

As a school we decided to change IT support contractors and appointed a new supplier for the next 3 years. Substantial time was spent evaluating who could provide the school with the best service level whilst also delivering best value.

Budget was also spent on increasing resources to enhance students' experience and wellbeing, including walkie talkie for all classes to prevent movement between bubbles. Mighty writer boards were purchased for three classes and new chairs and tables were purchased for two

classes. Reception classes were treated to new trikes and bikes and pre-school acquired new dining tables and chairs.

New playground equipment was purchased including a climbing wall and fitness trail which helps support our Healthy Heathwood initiative. They were fitted in time for the children's return to school in September and were loved by all the children!

The management and resource committee have also been busy in this unusual year supporting the excellent work of the school in any way then can including helping and advising with COVID risk assessments.

As a committee we remain working closely with the school to monitor and support ongoing financial issues and health and safety issues whilst ensuring that we are COVID compliant.

Hayley Fitch
Chair of Management & Resources

Report from the Vice Chair

This year has been a difficult one, not only for Heathwood but for everyone. The normal school year was somewhat curtailed due to Coronavirus; but Heathwood has continued to give daily support to children of Keyworkers and others with educational needs. For those who stayed at home, we maintained regular contact to ensure that the wellbeing of **all** children was taken into consideration.

I'm pleased to say that the School Council, Sports Council, Eco Council, Rights Respecting and Fairtrade are as strong as ever. Our children take part in these councils and know that their voice is heard and that they can make a difference, not only to their immediate environment but also to others. We have continued to support 2 children from Sierra Leone, by holding Fair Trade tuck shops on a Friday.

The children take their responsibilities on the Councils very seriously and I have great pride in their achievements.

This year's elections took place in September and some councils have already had their first meeting of the year. I usually come into school to oversee the elections but was unable to do so this year for obvious reasons. I have however, attended a virtual meeting with the Fairtrade Council, which went really well. This will be the way forward for the foreseeable future.

Rose Gunter
Vice Chair Teaching and Learning