

Governor Newsletter Summer 2020



HELLO!

Dear parents and carers

Welcome to the summer Governor newsletter. What an unusual time it has been, we do hope all our families are well and extend our thoughts to anyone who has been affected by coronavirus or have relatives or friends who have suffered in any way.

As we approach the end of this (very strange) school year we are looking forward to a new beginning; not only in terms of welcoming back many children who have been learning at home during lockdown, but also to our new reception children starting in September. We also say a fond farewell to our current year 6 children; they haven't quite had the end of primary school they were expecting, but we are sure the Iron Acton staff have given them the best send-off possible in these times. We wish them all our best wishes for the next phase of their education.
Ellie Blanch

Farewell to Sandra Sparks

Sandra has been a governor at our school for 12 years. And as the school begins its new journey she has decided to step down. Here are a few tributes, we will miss you Sandra.

Her knowledge of governorship and her ability to encourage others is second to none! Sandra has a real passion for Iron Acton Primary School and has served in such a dedicated way. I personally have found her incredibly supportive as I have grappled with understanding some aspects of being a fellow foundation governor and she has always been there to talk things through with over a cuppa and most importantly to encourage and fill fellow governors with confidence. Sandra has offered a listening ear on many occasions to parents and carers who have needed to talk through issues. I know the children at school have a real affection for her as I have witnessed when taking part in pupil feedback sessions with her. Thank you, Sandra, you have been amazing!

Governing Body

(until 31 Aug 2020)

Head Teacher: Mike Riches

Clerk: Kate Bashford

Chair of Governors &

Parent Governor: Ellie Blanch (English & Science link)

Vice Chair: Rob Taylor

Parent Governor: Charlotte Murphy (Maths link)

Staff Governor: Catherine Detzler

Foundation Governors:

Sandra Sparkes & Jo Strange (PSHE & Language links)

Local Authority Governor

Adam Dinham (Safeguarding)

Co-opted Governors:

Ben Clarke (Pupil Premium)

Sarah Godsell

Deb Marriage (SEND)

Federation update

You will have seen that the consultation to formally form a federation between Iron Acton and Hawkesbury Primary schools has been successfully approved and will begin 1st September 2020. We as a governing body, see this a very positive step, allowing more efficient and effective working for both schools and therefore will provide better outcomes for all the children attending both schools. We are currently working on getting the best possible people on to the new governing body and where possible, ensuring equal representation from both school communities and diocese. To date Charlotte Murphy has been elected as Iron Acton parent governor and Iona Cooper as Hawkesbury Upton parent governor. Foundation, co-opted and local authority governors are in the process of being finalised. We'd also like to say a huge thank you to Cathy Detzler who will be stepping down as staff governor, THANK YOU 😊. Christine Wilson has been elected as the staff governor from 1 September. As always, we are keen to hear your thoughts, especially as we have been unable to hold our annual parent governing meeting this year. Please do contact the school office if you have anything you wish to share with us or would like to be considered for a position on the Federation's Governing body.

Find out about the NEW Iron Acton after school club

We're delighted that a new after-school club will be starting in our school in September to provide support and greater flexibility for parents. We're hoping this will be received positively by existing parents of the school and also help to make the school more attractive to prospective parents when selecting a school to send their children to. The club will be running until 6pm Monday - Thursday and will provide an environment that is safe and supportive, giving children a place to be with friends and make new ones, try out new activities, relax and have fun. For more information on the club, or to register your child(ren) please contact the school office.

And finally, an update on the new classroom

Work has begun on our new classroom project at long last! You may have seen the old classroom which had been in place for around 25 years swinging through the sky on a crane back in March when lockdown first started. We have had Heras fencing and tracking down on the field ever since in anticipation of the next phase. Sadly, several large trees have had to be removed from the site to make way for the new building, but we will be replanting 6 new trees on the field. Builders are now very much on site digging a hole so that the new building can be at ground level and accessible for all. Our expected date of completion is 21st August which should give the teachers just enough time to get the classrooms up and running for September. The final phase will be to return the school field back to normal by removing the temporary classroom and reinstating the raised beds and greenhouse area. We cannot wait to see how the new classroom and its surrounding area looks once it is finished and look forward to the project finally being completed.