News from the Governing Body March 2024

As always, the term has been a very busy one! Governors have met formally on three occasions, twice in committees and once as a Full Governing body. A flavour of our discussions is outlined below.

In the Resources Committee we considered budget planning for the next financial year. We are very grateful to our business manager Dan Williams for his vigilance and excellent reports. We also looked at the various options for acquiring a new minibus! The decision was made to lease a vehicle – it is on order!!!!

The Curriculum and Standards meeting learnt in their meeting about the filtering systems which are in place to protect our pupils from harmful internet content. Governors we pleased to learn that this matter is monitored very thoroughly. We were also very interested to receive a report and engage in discussion around the ways in which pupil progress is monitored.

The Full Governing Body had a packed agenda. A key part of this agenda is when Paula presents her report of progress in relation to matters in the school's Improvement Plan and on what has been happening in school during the term. It was pleasing to note that progress towards all targets is on track and, as parents and carers will realise from social media, pupils have been involved in an enormous range of activities. These range from a Winter Olympics where Acorns welcome pupils from other schools to join in the fun to trampolining and World Book Day! Governors were particularly interested to hear about the development of the regulation walks which have been extended to include one in the afternoon – these have had a really positive impact on pupils' "readiness to learn" and be settled in school. Governors discussed their own training and development at length; all are committed to ensuring that their skills match the needs of the school.

One big piece of news this term is that our Deputy Head, Katy, has been appointed to the post of Deputy Head at Sir Tom Finney School. Katy will be very much missed as she is a key part of Acorns success. Governors wish her every success in her new role – we know she will be brilliant. We also know she won't be far away and will stay in touch. At the Governors' meeting we made arrangements for the interview process for Katy's replacement. Almost the whole Governing Body will be involved in, what will be, a rigorous process for candidates. We will ensure we take the opportunity to make an excellent appointment!