

# Coteford Junior School

## Governing Body Newsletter

### Spring Term 2025

#### Teaching and Learning Committee

The TLC governors met with Ms Kirk this term to look at the DT program at Coteford Junior School. Ms Kirk shared with us a summary of the projects that the different year groups work on and talked about how DT has been completely overhauled in the past 4 or 5 years and that it has now become an established subject that all the year group teachers are confident in presenting and exploring with their students. Ms Kirk talked about how DT worked across curriculum subjects incorporating English, Maths, science and geography particularly. Ms Kirk summarised how the Coteford DT programme is designed to meet the children's needs and helps them to consider the purpose and intent of a project. We were shown some wonderful examples of your children's work from across the year groups including the year 6 lighthouses and the year 5 cafe project. The committee thanked Ms Kirk for her continued input into improving the DT provision at Coteford and asked her to pass our thanks onto all teachers at the school.

**Diana Johnson-Chair**

#### Resources Committee

In late March, I had the opportunity to meet with the CEO and CFO of Partnership Learning, the new trust that our Juniors joined this year. This was a fantastic chance to make introductions and discuss the exciting plans ahead. The leadership of the trust expressed strong support for our school, which is very encouraging news. We have already seen some of this support in action, particularly through the assistance of the trust's School Improvement Lead during our recent successful Ofsted inspection. We also had a productive discussion about the trust's plans to undertake capital works to enhance the building's condition. One of the first projects approved is the replacement of the outdated lighting with energy-efficient LED lights – a great step towards improving both the environment and the school's sustainability. Additionally, it was a pleasure to reconnect with our Site Manager, Mr. Scott, who has returned from his leave of absence. He shares my enthusiasm about collaborating with Partnership Learning to continue improving the school's facilities.

**Roald Versteeg-Chair**

#### Music for Life

Many of you may have come across the wonderful Music & Life, our local music shop in Pinner. We're excited to share that we plan to team up with them! Their talented musicians will visit the school to inspire our pupils and spark a love for music. As part of this partnership, we'll also be supporting their live jazz sessions, held every Sunday.

**Ushma Siddhu – Parent Governor**

#### Governor News

Welcome to this Spring edition of the Coteford Governing Body Newsletter. The Spring Term has been a busy time in school; the children continue to enjoy a rich and varied curriculum and engage enthusiastically in a range of extra-curricular activities and clubs.

In March the Governors visited school for our annual Governors in School Day which is always a pleasure. We were particularly pleased to see the enthusiasm of the children in class and their keenness to share what they were doing. We were impressed by the way the children got on with the task at hand in a calm and productive manner and that their interactions with staff and each other were polite and respectful. I would like to share with you a few of the comments governors made about their experience:

*'I observed a phonics lesson and history club where I saw great use of resources. Children were very engaged. There was a lot of positivity',*

*'I observed a PSHE class led by Mrs Qureshy. I was impressed by how she used different languages to get the children's attention. The class discussed gender equality and racial stereotyping. The children were very observant. I came away wishing that Mrs Qureshy had been my teacher'*

*'It was good to see all the Ramadan posters displayed around school'.*

*'Participant level was extremely good and I particularly enjoyed observing hands reaching up, bursting to ask questions.'*

*'A lovely experience, testament to the quality of teaching being delivered to students.'*

The governors thoroughly enjoyed their day in school and we would like to thank the pupils and staff for all they do to make Coteford such a great school and for making us feel so welcome.

**Janet Herson-Chair of Governors**