

## Federation of Boldmere Schools Governor Update | Summer Term 2024

### Message from the Governors

As we quickly head towards the end of term we would like to wish the whole of our school community a very enjoyable summer and hope that you are able to spend some quality time with your families and friends. Have a restful break!

This is our final Summer Term Governor Newsletter, which we hope you find informative. It has been a busy year for Governors, with regular meetings, committees and school visits. With Transition Day now gone, we would like to take this opportunity to wish all the year 6 children who will be leaving soon the very best in their new school and we hope you leave with fond memories of your time here at Boldmere School.

As governors we work to support Boldmere School's vision, which is: to empower all children to embrace learning; achieve their personal best; and build their social, emotional and physical wellbeing.

The governors provide strategic oversight of the school, through its governing board meetings, but also through our specific committees covering finance, facilities, premises, health & safety (FFPH&S) along with education & standards (E&S). All minutes of these meetings, along with other information, are available in the governors' area of the <u>school website</u>.

In addition we have a Parent Representative Body which allows groups of parents from each year group to feed directly to the executive leadership and to the governors.

Finally, the governing board would also like to say a massive thanks to our amazing PTA who continue to support school funds year on year, through the organisation of our wonderful community events.

#### **Governor Visits**

Governors often visit the school to see the work being done by staff and speak with the children to understand their experience of school life. Recently, Governors were able to walk round both the Infant and Junior schools, where they were shown round classrooms by staff and were able to see lessons in real time. We were also able to see children busy making their wares to sell for Enterprise Week, including brilliant bee hotels and phenomenal photo frames! What is always apparent during these visits is just how hard staff work to make the children feel supported and involved as possible, as well as the calm, relaxed atmosphere in classrooms. A big thank you goes out to school on behalf of the Governing Body for hosting and answering questions from Governors.

#### The role of School Governors

A common question asked of governors is 'what is your role?'. The purpose of the governing body is to provide confident, strategic leadership and to create robust accountability, oversight and assurance for educational and financial performance. Specifically, governors are responsible for:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
- Holding executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the organisation and its pupils, and the performance management of staff
- Overseeing the financial performance of the organisation and making sure its money is well spent

The governors are not involved in the day to day running of the school, and the teaching staff should be the first point of contact for any issues. More information can be found at <u>www.boldmere.bham.sch.uk</u>



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## **National Update**

Improving the educational outcomes of children and young people is an objective for all, including for young people themselves. The headlines for the Department for Education for 23/24 identified that 434,354 pupils in England had received an Educational Healthcare Plan (EHCP), up by 11.6% from 2023 and that 1,238,851 pupils in schools in England were receiving SEN support without an EHCP which is up by 4.7% from 2023. As we see the national data reflect the educational needs of children change, it serves as a reminder to support our children and staff across the whole school.

## Equity Diversity & Belonging Forum:

For September 2024, Boldmere Infant and Junior School will be establishing their first EDB Forum; a working group of members of the Boldmere community. With the changing population of the school, the aim of the forum is to ensure that everyone in the community feels heard, considered, represented and celebrated. To find out more and join us, fill in the form:

#### https://forms.gle/psrXsBcA7YeMizhk9



## **National Volunteer Week**

What a fantastic month we had in June, starting with introducing national Volunteer week to the school. Thank you to those parents who kindly and generously donated money and skillsincluding a parent who is a nurse offering to update our first aid boxes around school, amazing! For any parent/carer who would like to contribute to he school community there is still time to complete the form here:

## https://forms.office/e/mnAL840idf

## **Enterprise Week**

The Junior School ran their first 'Enterprise Week' towards the end of June and what a week it was! The idea, initiated by Governor Charley Hafiz, saw each year group pitch their ideas to a group of Dragons, in order to obtain the funds to start their businesses. The children were fantastic and after securing more than they asked for in most cases, went on to manufacture their products, all in line with the sustainability theme. The week ended with 2 days of selling, with children setting up stalls and convincing visitors to part with their cash! A huge well done to all children, with every year group turning a profit. Extra congratulations to Year 3 who won the challenge with their bee hotels! Finally a big thank you to all parents for attending and staff for their hard work!





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#### Parents Representative Groups Update

The Parent Representative Body has been set up to encourage dialogue between parents, the senior leadership team and governors. The group has been going strong for more than two years now, and has proven successful in discussing any issues.

The group meets with school leaders on a half termly basis. During the first parent representative meeting later this half-term we will establish any vacancies and invite any expressions of interest to ensure sufficient representation for all classes wherever possible.

The continued dialogue is essential for our governing board as this acts as another important mechanism for further school improvement priorities.

#### Get in touch

The governors welcome feedback and questions from all parents/carers and stakeholders in the wonderful Boldmere community. Full date of our Governing Body Meetings for 2024/25 can be found below.

If you would like to contact the Governing Body, please contact either of the school offices or email <u>enquiry@boldmere.bham.sch.uk</u> marking the email for the attention of the FGB.

#### **Upcoming Meetings for 2024/25**

	Day	Date	Time	Meeting
AUTUMN	Wednesday	25/09/2024	4pm	Full Governing Board
	Wednesday	13/11/2024	8am	FFPHS Committee
	Wednesday	27/11/2024	8am	E&S Committee
	Wednesday	11/12/2024	4pm	Full Governing Board
SPRING	Wednesday	05/02/2025	8am	FFPHS Committee
	Wednesday	05/03/2025	8am	E&S Committee
	Wednesday	19/03/2025	8am	FFPHS Committee
	Wednesday	09/04/2025	8am	FFPHS Committee
	Wednesday	14/05/2025	4pm	Full Governing Board
SUMMER	Wednesday	18/06/2025	8am	E & S Committee
	Wednesday	02/07/2025	8am	FFPHS Committee
	Wednesday	16/07/2025	4pm	Full Governing Board