



Governors News

Dear Northgate Community,

It is hard to believe that another year has passed, and we will soon be saying farewell to our year 6 pupils and welcoming our new nursery and reception families. I would like to take this opportunity to share the Governors' and my thoughts from this academic year. As always it has been an incredibly busy year in which the new senior leadership team have settled in well. The enthusiasm and drive in which they all bring has certainly been key in driving the school forward.

Governors might work largely in the background, but we are committed to supporting the Head, the staff, the pupils and you, our parents. Our role consists of; health and safety walks around the school; finance checks to ensure accountability; analysing pupils progress through the school; keeping tabs on projects within the school; building relationships with staff and pupils; supporting and challenging the Headteacher and the Senior Leadership Team; interviewing potential staff members; making sure that school policies are up-to-date and are part of the culture of Northgate. The list goes on, but we enjoy what we do and are proud to be part of the Northgate School community.

As is often the case, personal circumstances can change and as such we are sorry to say goodbye to Robin Newman and Nana Brown who have both stepped down as governors. I would like to thank Robin and Nana for their support and commitment to the school and wish them all the best for the future. We have had a number of new members join the Governors this year – we welcomed David Clarke and Lawrence Foote who join us as Co-opted Governors. We have vacancies on the Board for more Community Governors so if you know someone from the community who would really help the school, please contact me through the school office.

Northgate has always been an excellent school and as Mrs Tanner has shared with you it is just superb that we have been awarded the National Early Years Quality Mark. The award explores the quality of the provision and the feedback this year was 'exceptional', especially the development of the outdoor environment. We have also been awarded the Gold Sports Mark and the Healthy Schools Award. All these awards take a huge amount work, so thank you too all involved.

Last week, Mrs Tanner shared with you the yr 6 National Assessment results. Our pupils have done themselves proud again, with the combined score for reading, writing and maths at 83%, which continues to be significantly above the National figure. In addition, the performance throughout the entire school has been high, with outstanding progress being made in our yr 1 phonics assessment—92% pass rate, as well as good progress being made across each of the school's priority areas. These results are fantastic achievements and both children and staff are to be commended on their hard work. These results would not be made possible without the support you, the parents and carers give to the school and at home which is immensely important.

Thanks to an immense amount of hard work by all staff there are many improvements now embedded within the school and we have received positive feedback from our local authority advisors on this. The school has continued to expand and develop its parental engagement, with more work shares and various subject focus weeks. The atmosphere, culture and enrichment that the children are provided with has grown. This year, the children have had the opportunity to take part in a wide variety of experiences from inter sport competitions, musical concerts, themed subject weeks, bake offs, take over day and the upcoming Northgates Got Talent!

We are always sad to say goodbye to our Year 6 children and their families and we wish them every success for the next stage of their learning journey. We would also like to wish Ms Allen, Mr Glozier, Ms Godfrey, Mrs Crocker, Mrs Foster and Mrs Murphy well in their future pursuits both in and out of education. We hope they remember their time at Northgate fondly.

I would like to thank my governing body team for all their hard work, dedication and commitment that enables us to effectively support the school. Thank you to Mrs Tanner, the Senior Leadership Team and all staff for working so hard to provide a safe and stimulating learning environment for our children. Thank you to the PTA for their incredible fundraising efforts over the last year, which really do support the school.

Most importantly I would like to thank all parents for their continued support and commitment to our school and I look forward to seeing you all, and some new faces, in September.

Wishing you a safe and enjoyable summer break.

Sarah Cran
Chair of Governors