

West Tytherley C.E. (Controlled) Primary School



West Tytherley
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Wiltshire SP5 1JX
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Dear School Community,

Last term I wrote to you to explain the focus of the governing body following our Ofsted visit. This letter is to explain a little about our progress and ongoing work to continually support and improve the school.

This term I will be reporting on the "Environment" theme. As I mentioned in my previous letter, in this theme the governors with the Headteacher look to ensuring the health and safety policies and procedures and that we use every day, continue to be adequate and robust enough to keep children safe in all eventualities; and that the school classrooms and outside space are developed and used effectively to enrich children's experiences at the school.

I am pleased to be able to tell you a full safeguarding audit has been conducted at the school, and the staff have received specific training updates in fire safety. Two designated members of staff will be receiving safeguarding update training shortly, and we have updated the school's safeguarding leaflet available for all visitors to the school in the school office in light of the safeguarding review. We continue to have monthly safeguarding monitoring activity by the governing body and remain fully compliant with all mandatory and essential safeguarding and health and safety procedures at the school.

Investments into the environment at West Tytherley over the last term are: new external lighting has been installed that is programmed to go off at 8pm; Key Stage 2 upstairs toilets have been refurbished and fully operational, the entire front and back playground/ school entrance have been pressure cleaned and new playground markings are being completed to uplift and reduce the slip hazards of the playground. The Early Years outdoor canopy to facilitate more outdoor play has been completed and an extra school gate at the top playground has been installed. In order to keep the premises at their best, and avoid costly and inconvenient unplanned refurbishment needs, the governing body are considering commissioning a survey for a programme of refurbishment work at the school. This way we would be able to ensure we stay on top of the interior and exterior needs of the school, so it remains a safe and positive place to work and play for the pupils and staff. This decision is being made over the next couple of months in light of a full financial review of the school, the available capital, with the consideration of competing capital investment priorities.



The only other news to inform you of is that I am stepping down as Chair of Governors at Easter this year, as I am starting a MSc and after two years as a governor, am no longer able to devote the time needed to the role. The governing body have been carrying four governor vacancies for a while, and by the end of this academic year, another Governor will have completed four years of fantastic service at the school. We are chronically short of governors and we would welcome anyone who thinks they could help bring their skills and experience to the school to get in touch. The types of skills or experience that we benefit from are: experience of financial or organisational/ business management, personnel management; premises or outdoor development/ management; marketing; policy development; quality improvement experience. Also if you have a specific educational or curricular interest that you think might benefit the school, we would love to hear from you.

The role of a governor would also suit anyone looking to improve their own C.V.s and we welcome people who are looking to develop their skills and experience in any of the above fields. We pay for training courses and are a very supportive and friendly team to work with. If you feel you have the ability to think critically, good at discussing and planning, and have any time to share in the worthwhile work of continually supporting and improving the school, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Mr Warren or myself.

I look forward to hearing from you!

Best wishes
Kirsten
Chair of Governors
West Tytherley CE Primary School