

Launde Primary School

Governor Newsletter

October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the new academic year. At the start of this year when times are still uncertain, we would like to share with some of the changes at the school and Governing Body over the summer and look forward to the upcoming year.



We are as ever pleased with the community spirit and how well parents, staff and governors work together in the best interests of the children in our care. It was pleasing to see photos of the new KS1 library area that has been developed over the summer holidays with funds from the school PTA. It is a very welcoming and bright area for the children as you can see from the photograph.

Changes to the Governing Body

One of our parent governors, Mr Saha has decided to step down due to a change in circumstances. In Suman's brief time with us, he has been an active contributor and voice within the governing team and will be missed. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Suman for all his help and support during his time as governor. Good luck and best wishes for the future.

Vacancy for a new parent Governor

As a result of Mr Saha's resignation there is now a vacancy for a parent governor, the vacancy is open until the 12 October. As a governor you will have direct involvement in the strategy and policy decision making at the school. The role is engaging and rewarding, especially when you see the direct results of the hard work done by the staff to achieve high academic standards and a vibrant school environment. The small commitment of time required as a governor is very much worth it, particularly when you know you have played a part in that success. You are a member of the team that runs the school and it is a privilege to be involved in that. Please contact any of the parent Governors to find out what being a governor involves (parent governors are: Barry Thomas – Chair; Malvinder Plaha – Vice Chair; Jackie Difolco; and Visveswaran Mallayan).

Welcome to new office and teaching staff

Over time all organisations see changes in staff. Here at Launde we are no different and with that in mind we would like to warmly welcome the following new members of staff:

Teaching staff: Miss Moore, Mr Wistow

Office staff: Mrs Stirk, Mrs Cooper, Mrs Breeze, Ms Jones

We appreciate the high standards that the staff work hard to maintain and we are sure that these new members are as excited as we are to have them aboard. If you see them on site or out in the community please say hello!

Covid response by the school

The recent and ongoing challenges raised by the pandemic have truly tested the commitment, resolve and resources of all of us. At Launde, we are particularly proud and privileged to have staff that have above and beyond in doing the work required to keep things going. As parents and members of the community we would like to say a big thank you to the teaching, office and additional support staff that have worked diligently from the beginning of the year to respond to the changes of teaching environment.

Working through both term-time and summer the staff at Launde have been able to deliver both support and quality learning material both in school and online. This is especially rewarding as a school where the children of key workers and those affected by the changes in working conditions, have been able to be reassured that their children continue to learn safely, whilst they provide services that are a benefit to all of us. We would like to give a special mention to our Executive Head, Miss Sandhu and Head of School, Ms Priddey, who have shown outstanding resolve and leadership for the school and local community. From all of the governors, please accept a massive thank you for all that you do!

Governing Body priorities for the year

At the start of every academic year the Governing Body sets out its priorities for the year. This year we will focus on the following things:

- **Ofsted visit** – In 2011, Launde was rated ‘Outstanding’ by Ofsted, this is the highest rating possible for any school. This assessment was conducted 9 years ago and Launde is now due another inspection. Ofsted have indicated they will inspect ‘Outstanding’ schools once its inspection programme full restarts from January 2021 (current estimate but subject to change due to the Covid pandemic). This means the school and the governing body must be ready for an inspection. As Governors we will make it a priority for this year to be prepared for an inspection and will work closely with Ms Priddey and Miss Sandhu to ensure we continue to be fully informed about school standards and are in the best position to support the school achieve a super rating once again.
- **Recruitment and sustainability of the Governing body** – over the last few years we have seen relatively high turnover of members of the governing body. This can lead to disruption of the governing body schedule and subsequently delay other matters that may need attention. We will be looking at the recruitment process and how we can make membership of the governing body more sustainable with continued membership.
- **School visits programme** – School visits last year was very informative as we met English, Maths and Science Subject Leads as well as completed a SEN review and a safeguarding audit. This year, we will be looking to develop these visits further and complete an annual programme of visits covering various topics including: health and safety; subject specific visits; and visits to observe specific initiatives. School visits allow the governors to see and understand how the school is run first hand and provides valuable knowledge which enhance our ability to be effective governors.



Stay safe and look after yourselves,



**Launde
Governing Body**

*For information about the Governing
Body, please go to our school website.*

